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UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Title: Generative Artificial Intelligence Use
Effective Date: August 1, 2024
Issuing Authority: Provost
Policy Contact: Vice Provost
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Purpose

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) is typically defined as the ability of a machine to perform cognitive functions associated with human minds, such as perceiving, reasoning, learning, and problem solving. Usage depends on the specific purpose and pedagogical or intellectual context. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the responsible use of generative AI.

Scope

This policy applies to members of the Mercer community who are engaged in academic work and scholarship. Individual units may implement separate generative AI policies that address their unique needs and govern their specific requirements. Individual units may have separate generative AI policies that are more restrictive, not less restrictive, than this University policy.

Exclusions

None

Policy Statement

The following guidance applies to the usage of generative AI:

- Generative AI must be used responsibly and consistently with academic and professional codes of ethics, standards of citations, the University policy on academic integrity, and the University Student Code of Conduct.

- Authors of content generated by AI are responsible for that content.

- Faculty are responsible for deciding whether, when, and how generative AI is used in courses, programs, and/or research.

- Faculty must clearly communicate generative AI use to students in course syllabi, assignment instructions, and research guidelines.

- Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to faculty communications for

using generative AI in each of their courses and research activities.

Additional Resources

1. Academic Integrity Policy: https://policies.mercer.edu/academic-integrity/

2. Student Code of Conduct: https://policies.mercer.edu/student-code-of-conduct/

3. The Center for Teaching and Learning provides example syllabus statements on generative AI for faculty consideration, ranging from strictly prohibited use of AI to unrestricted use of AI: https://ctl.mercer.edu/ai-resources/sample-syllabus-guidance-for-ai-use/

4. University Libraries AI Research Guide: https://mercer.libguides.com/AI

History
Approved by Provost D. Scott Davis, August 1, 2024