



# USING CHATGPT

## GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



ChatGPT is a popular artificial intelligence tool that has been making headlines since its release in late 2022. But what is it? What can you use it for? When is it OK to use when studying? And when might it get you in trouble?

### WHAT IS CHATGPT?



ChatGPT is an example of generative artificial intelligence that provides human-like responses to prompts. ChatGPT was trained on a massive amount of text from the internet to learn patterns in language.

When you ask it a question or give it an instruction, it analyses the words to figure out the context and produces words and sentences that match the patterns learned from the information it was trained on. This learning was reinforced by humans who checked the responses given and provided feedback.

### WHAT CAN I USE IT FOR?

ChatGPT can be used in many ways to help you study and learn. For example, it can help you:

- Understand complex concepts by explaining them in simpler terms.
- Give you an awareness of key ideas, issues, and terminology.
- Improve your written communication skills by refining your language and style.
- Apply critical, creative, and reflective thinking skills by generating and evaluating your prompts and the accuracy and relevance of the output.
- Prepare for assessments by generating revision tools like quizzes and flash cards to practice with.

You may also be given activities to try using ChatGPT in your topic or you may be instructed to use it as part of an assessment piece. Be guided by your topic coordinator or assessment instructions and be careful to stay within their guidelines so you don't get in trouble.

### WHEN COULD I GET IN TROUBLE USING CHATGPT?



There are several instances where the use of artificial intelligence tools like ChatGPT when undertaking assessment pieces may constitute academic misconduct, as per the University's [Student Academic Integrity Policy](#). Examples include:

- Using ChatGPT beyond what is permitted by the topic coordinator. Some topics may not allow the use of ChatGPT or may only allow its use with certain limitations. If the topic information or assessment instructions specify how ChatGPT can be used, be sure to stay within these guidelines. If you are unsure, check with your topic coordinator.
- Submitting output generated by ChatGPT as your own work. This may constitute plagiarism, contract cheating, or solicitation.
- Not properly cited output generated by ChatGPT. Ensure you cite output generated by ChatGPT according to your topic's preferred referencing style. The [APA 7](#) and [Harvard referencing](#) guides have been updated to include acknowledgment of generative AI tools.
- Not acknowledging your use of ChatGPT. It is recommended that you provide a declaration acknowledging if and how you have used ChatGPT. This should be included either as a footnote or at the end of your reference list – check for the preferred option with your topic coordinator. For example:

*"I acknowledge the use of ChatGPT in the drafting and proofreading of this assignment."*



### WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT CHATGPT?

When using ChatGPT, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- The responses provided by ChatGPT are based on patterns learned from information from the internet, but it is not publicly known exactly what sources are used, how scholarly they are, how research resources are represented, or what percentage was from social media.
- ChatGPT is not capable of critical thinking. In essence, it does not 'understand' what it is producing. Therefore, it is essential to evaluate the accuracy and relevance of all content produced.
- ChatGPT is not connected to search engines or databases and cannot 'look up' information. It only generates responses based on its training.
- Generative AI tools are only as good as the prompts they are given. If you want quality content, you must input quality prompts. This requires critical thinking and reflection in the design of your prompts and how you interact with the output.

With these limitations in mind, it is recommended that you don't rely on ChatGPT when:

- You want to find references.
- You need accurate information or evidence.
- You want information on very recent or highly specialised topics.

You should also be wary of relying on ChatGPT too much when studying as it can limit your ability to learn essential critical thinking skills – skills you need to succeed during your studies and when you enter your chosen profession!



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### SHOULD I USE CHATGPT?

