

AD.2.15.3 Use of Artificial Intelligence Technologies at SAIT

Schedule A: Use of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning

A. Definitions

Artificial intelligence (AI) Artificial intelligence is the ability of machines, particularly computer systems, to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence. This includes the ability to reason, discover meaning, generalize, or learn from past experiences. AI encompasses a range of technologies and methods, including machine learning, neural networks, deep learning, natural language processing and robotics, enabling machines to understand and process language, recognize patterns, solve problems, make decisions, communicate with other AI technologies and to perform physical tasks like navigating environments.

Artificial intelligence technologies

Systems, models, or tools that apply artificial intelligence to perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence. These technologies process input data to generate outputs such as decisions, predictions, or content. This includes, but is not limited to, AI models that analyze data and produce outputs based on algorithms, and AI tools that generate or modify text, images, audio, video, software code, music or other content in response to user input.

Employee

Any person employed on SAIT's payroll.

Generative artificial intelligence (Gen AI)

A specific type of AI, including Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning and Deep Learning systems, trained on large volumes of information that use algorithms to generate new creative content. Examples include ChatGPT, Google Gemini and Microsoft Copilot, which all have the capability to answer questions, provide explanations and summaries, draft documents, and simulate discussions.

Student

A person currently enrolled in a SAIT program or course.

B. Governing Principles

1. The use of generative artificial intelligence (Gen AI) and artificial intelligence (AI) technologies by students and employees is guided by the fundamental values of academic integrity, as defined by the International Centre for Academic Integrity and adopted by many post-secondary institutions in North America and elsewhere. These values are honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.
2. As artificial intelligence and its use/implications for academic integrity continue to evolve, SAIT will revise these guidelines as needed.

C. Expectations for Students

1. SAIT recognizes that the use of generative artificial intelligence (Gen AI) and the use of AI technologies can be helpful for student learning. Students are, however, expected to uphold SAIT's standards for academic integrity in all their academic work.
2. Students are required to reach out to their instructors if they are considering using Gen AI or AI technologies to help with their evaluative assessments, so that students know whether the instructors do or do not allow the use of AI technologies on a particular assessment.
3. Unless an instructor has explicitly allowed students to use Gen AI or AI technologies on an evaluative assessment, as stated either on the course outline or in that assessment's written requirements, a student's use of Gen AI or an AI technology is an act of academic misconduct under section B.5 (use of unauthorized technologies/materials), Schedule A, procedure AC.3.4.3 Student Academic Conduct. Students who are unsure whether a particular technology is an AI technology should discuss this with their instructor.
4. If students are allowed to use Gen AI or AI technologies on an evaluative assessment, they are required to attribute the AI outputs. Basic guidance for attributing the use of AI outputs is available on the Reg Erhardt Library's citation guides. Instructors/programs may also set their own expectations for student acknowledgement of their use of AI in assessments.

D. Expectations for SAIT

1. SAIT's employees are expected to model the ethical use of artificial intelligence and to acknowledge/attribute their own use of AI technologies in their SAIT work.
2. The use of AI technologies in a program/course shall align with learning outcomes for that program/course.

3. Different industries/professions have different standards and expectations about the appropriate and ethical use of artificial intelligence in those industries/professions. This means that the use of artificial intelligence technologies in one academic program may be different than the use of artificial intelligence technologies in another academic program, subject to the expectations set out in these guidelines.
4. SAIT will provide resources to assist instructors in their own understanding/use of AI technologies in their assessments.

E. Expectations for Instructors

1. Instructors are encouraged to teach students about the standards and expectations for the appropriate and ethical use of artificial intelligence in their industries/professions.
2. An instructor who has allowed students to use an AI tool on an evaluative assessment shall have a discussion with students about:
 - How to disclose or attribute their use of AI technologies.
 - The limitations of AI, including, but not limited to:
 - AI does not replace human work or human judgment.
 - AI technologies may generate content that is inaccurate, false, misleading, biased, discriminatory, skewed towards Western views and English speakers, out-of-date or offensive.
 - AI technologies may raise data privacy/security issues and copyright issues.
 - AI outputs are not reproducible: this means that the use of an AI tool does not generate the same output each time.
 - Student reliance on AI does not necessarily allow students to learn or demonstrate their own understanding and knowledge of ideas and concepts. This may negatively affect a student's performance on evaluative assessments where they are unable to use AI technologies.
3. An instructor's selection of a particular AI tool for an evaluative assessment shall consider the students' abilities, financial or otherwise, to access that particular AI tool, the pricing implications for SAIT, the reliability/legitimacy of that tool and potential cybersecurity concerns with that AI tool. Prior to onboarding any technologies or software vendors, the instructor must first discuss with the ITS department to ensure that SAIT has evaluated third party risks associated with those technologies or vendors before making a final selection and implementing that AI tool.
4. There is a lack of current evidence to support the reliability and validity of AI detection software results. While these results may be one piece of evidence that is considered when determining if academic misconduct has occurred, they are not the sole or determinative piece of evidence.