

GenAI Disclosure Statement

Background

Each time software programs prompt us to consider a different choice, an argument is made for us to change our spelling or phrasing, even if the suggested change is wrong. This is why our decision making matters. We need to be able to recognize when the machine gets it wrong, when it gets it right, and how we writers can maintain our own voices and intentions when using Generative AI (GenAI).

GenAI uses a large language model (LLM) trained on billions-of-words datasets, so it's not a database or search engine. There are no precise answers, and there is no predetermined endpoint with LLMs. It works through statistically predicting what the next word is likely to be based on its stores of training material.

It's an algorithmically driven word predictor, *not* a thinker or analyzer (which is why it sometimes "hallucinates"; it's trained to give *an* answer, but not necessarily the correct answer - some have humorously likened it to [the Family Guy's Company Suck Up](#)). In addition to predicting, it remixes and regurgitates based on predictive training models.

GenAI Disclosure Statement

To share (and reflect on) your decision making in this course, many assignments require you to complete and upload a GenAI Disclosure Statement separately but in addition to your regular assignment. Your statement needs to contain the following information, which includes all your interactions with (prompts and responses) the LLMs you use:

- A. If GenAI was **not** used...
 1. State why GenAI was not used in any way for this assignment.
- B. If GenAI **was** used...
 1. Which GenAI program did you choose and why did you choose to use that one?
 2. How was GenAI used? Common uses:
 - Summarizing content you then compare to your own thinking.
 - Brainstorming or testing out ideas (a sounding board).
 - Sharpening up lengthy sentences or passages so your intentions are clear or more concise.
 - Have it prompt you to help develop your thinking.
 - Soliciting specific feedback on what you wrote: Where can I add more about X? Use with caution since many LLMs use uploaded content for further training.

3. In what ways was the session helpful?
4. In what ways was the LLM's output flat, homogenized, or not representing your voice, identity, language(s), etc.
5. What would you do differently when prompting next time so it's more helpful to your critical thinking?
6. **Include ALL inputs and outputs used (your prompts and the GenAI's responses).**

Failure to include this statement with those assignments where it's required will result in a "0" until uploaded. **I care a lot about transparency & your agency**, not so much policing. However, should you use GenAI without disclosing it and you're not working within the constraints of an assignment, or if your work is overly generalized, I will consider the work incomplete and grade accordingly. Work containing false information or made up citations will receive a "0" until we discuss it together in office hours. **It's better for you to disclose and reflect.**