

Widener Delaware Law School Policy on GAI and Academic Misconduct

1. Students shall not use Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI)¹ (such as ChatGPT and including both free and enterprise-grade software) for:

(a) any graded or required course work or;

(b) co-curricular activities, including but not limited to Honor Societies or a Law Review;

(c) unless (i) explicitly authorized in advance, in writing by the faculty member teaching the course or the faculty advisor for the co-curricular activity; and (ii) given proper attribution with appropriate citation(s). Use of GAI without such authorization violates the Student Code of Conduct as provided in part 4 below.

2. For purposes of application and enforcement of this policy, GAI excludes applications that suggest corrections for spelling and grammar, applications that translate English words into foreign languages, and all components of any examination software required or provided by the law school.

3. If a student is uncertain about permissible uses of GAI tools for work related to any law school course or activity, that student must consult with the faculty member who teaches the course or supervises the activity before using GAI tools for work related to that course or activity.

4. A student's violation of this policy is considered academic misconduct and therefore violates the Student Code of Conduct.

(a) For purposes of rules addressing plagiarism in work submitted for a grade or an ungraded course requirement, text generated by GAI is treated as if a person wrote it. Unauthorized use of GAI platforms to generate answers to class assignments, exams, or any other written material that the reader would ordinarily assume to have been written by a person, not by a GAI program, is plagiarism under § 201(b) of the Student Code of Conduct. Plagiarism violates the Student Code of Conduct.

(b) If a faculty member permits the use of GAI, it is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct to ignore, disregard, or exceed the scope of, a faculty member's restrictions, specifications, or other instructions.

¹ GAI is technology that is capable of generating new content (such as images or text) in response to a submitted prompt (such as a query) by learning from a large reference database of examples. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/generative%20AI>