

# BYU Honors Program Statement on Use of Artificial Intelligence

The Honors Program supports the [statement from the Academic Vice President's Office](#) on Academic Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at BYU and reiterates that any academic use of AI should be consistent with the principles of the [Honor Code](#) and [Academic Honesty Policy](#).

The [Academic Honesty Policy](#) states, "BYU students should seek to be totally honest in their dealings with others. They should complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work." In the Honors Program context, "work" includes but is not limited to coursework, research and creative works, theses, projects, prospectuses, publications, presentations, exhibitions, performances, essays and papers, personal reflections, self-evaluations, peer critiques, applications, and other academic work.

Therefore, ***unless expressly permitted in a course syllabus, assignment description, or other written instructions provided by an Honors faculty member***, Honors students are expected to submit their own work and abide by the following policies:

1. **Exams:** Generative AI may NOT be used for any purpose in an exam.
2. **Course Work:** Generative AI may be used to perform research in ways similar to search engine functions (i.e., Google), for correction of grammar, proofreading, locating sources, and similar functions. The software may NOT be used to compose any part of submitted assignments or written responses, except as specified by course syllabi, assignment prompts, or instructors.
3. **Honors Thesis:** Generative AI use must be approved in advance and in writing by the student's committee and disclosed in the final product, including an explanation of their use, the tool(s) used, full text of prompts, and full texts of responses. The following guidelines apply:
  - a. If you copy language verbatim from a Generative AI tool, you must use quotation marks and provide a citation note to indicate that the words used were not your own that includes the prompt.
  - b. If you paraphrase output from a Generative AI tool, you must provide a citation note indicating that the idea, format, and syntax were not originally your own.
  - c. Failure to provide proper attribution and citations violates the academic honesty policies and will result in a student being subject to disciplinary measures.
4. **Personal Reflections/Applications:** Generative AI may NOT be used to complete written responses for scholarship applications, student council applications, job applications, or other forms/assignments that require a personal, reflective response.

Use of AI that is inconsistent with the above expectations may result in a student being subjected to disciplinary measures from the "Applicable Actions" section of BYUs [Academic Honesty Policy](#).

## Faculty & Instructors

Honors faculty and instructors are encouraged to address the appropriate use of AI in open discussion with their classes, and to include clear expectations and standards in course syllabi and assignment prompts. As noted above, ***unless expressly permitted in a course syllabus, assignment description, or other written instructions provided by the faculty member***, the above program policies apply to student use of AI in Honors coursework and academic requirements.

## Sample Syllabus Language/Inserts:

### **HONRS 320 AI/LLM POLICY**

In Honors we value the opportunity writing provides us to come to know our own thoughts and to communicate those thoughts to others. Artificial intelligence text generators are powerful and useful tools, but I want you as a writer to engage with the challenges and triumphs of staring down the blank page, working to organize your thoughts in writing, and striving to select the best language to communicate your meaning to readers. In response to questions about automating work like writing, essayist and environmentalist Wendell Berry says,

There is such a thing as human relations. And there is such a thing as getting a lot of satisfaction, joy, fun from human relations. And I don't understand why people are willing to give up on that. When you write an article for a magazine, you're offering half – you're part of a conversation. The reader is invited to complete it, perhaps by disagreeing. This is a relationship.

**Please note the following as it pertains to the essay writing process this semester:**

- ***Generative AI may NOT be used in your composition, writing and revision process, except as noted below.*** I hope you'll be willing to bring your own human artistry and love to your writing on written assignments, including essay drafts, reading responses and peer critiques. As a writer, YOU are engaging in a conversation with the reader and AI is not an acceptable substitute! ***As noted in the Honor Code and University Academic Honesty Policies below, you should complete your own work and be evaluated upon that work.***
- ***AI software may be used in a limited fashion for functions similar to search engines for proofreading, correction of grammar, brainstorming, locating sources, etc.*** As a class we will discuss the advantages and drawbacks of using AI in different stages of the process this semester.
- ***The Honors Program AI Policy applies where AI use is not specifically indicated in an assignment prompt.***

### **See also:**

[The College of Humanities AI – GEN AI Teaching Policy](#)

[J. Reuben Clark Law School AI Policy](#)

[Statement on Use of Artificial Intelligence in Graduate Programs](#)

For additional information about using Generative AI at BYU, please visit <https://genai.byu.edu>