Guidelines for using generative AI in written assignments

Trier University – Geoinformatics group

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in academic work is rapidly evolving. Generative AI can be a valuable resource for research, writing, and creative processes. However, it is important to establish guidelines to ensure its responsible use in academic settings. This document outlines the rules for using generative AI in written assignments of Geoinformatics courses, i.e., including, but not limited to term papers and master theses.

Definition

Generative AI refers to algorithms that can generate text, code, images, or other media in response to prompts. Examples include language models like GPT and image generation tools like DALL-E.

Permitted Uses

Students may use generative AI for purposes like these:

- Brainstorming and idea generation.
- Drafting outlines for term papers or theses.
- Language enhancement, such as grammar checking or rephrasing.
- Translating text, provided the translation is verified by a human.
- Assistance in Code generation

Prohibited Uses

Students must not:

- Use AI-generated content as a replacement for original writing and literature research.
- Submit AI-generated text without substantial modification and critical analysis.
- Use AI tools to fabricate data, results, or references.
- Plagiarize copyrighted texts, images, or other content.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR RESULTS

All tools have their limitations. Information in media can be wrong, AI is trained on these media. AI language models can produce well formulated texts, but they make errors and reproduce biases. So, before you proceed with AI generated results, you need to check them and revise them if necessary. The tool does not think for you, but you think with the help of the tool. You must be able to explain your solution to others. And you (not the tool) are responsible for errors in the solution.

Acknowledgment and Citation

- Any use of AI tools must be disclosed in the acknowledgment section or equivalent part of the document.
- Students need to include a brief description of how AI was used to assist with their work, incl. sample prompts.
- Cite the AI tool and version used, providing the name and, if applicable, any identifiers for the specific model (e.g., ChatGPT by OpenAI, 2023).

Ethical Considerations

- Students must ensure the ethical use of AI, complying with academic and social integrity policies.
- AI tools should not be used to undermine the originality of work or to mislead evaluators.

Support and Resources

- Consult academic advisors or faculty members if unsure about the appropriateness of AI usage in specific contexts.

Consequences of Misuse

- Non-compliance with these guidelines may result in academic penalties consistent with the university's policies on academic misconduct.

- This document was partly written by HAWKI, using GPT4-Turbo, Version 1.0 -

Use of generative AI in written assignments - Form

Study Program:	
Student ID:	
Full Name:	
University Email:	

Assignment Information

Type of assignment	
Working title	
Supervisor / Lecturer	
Course, if applicable	
Semester	

Declaration by the student:

I confirm that I have read and understood the *Guidelines for using generative AI in written assignments*, including the consequences that may arise from non-compliance.

When using generative AI in my assignment, I confirm that I will use the tool within the boundaries laid out in the guidelines and will specifically disclose any usage of AI.

I further consent to having my assignment checked with digital plagiarism software.

Location, Date	Student's Signature

Return the signed form to your supervisor or lecturer.