

Idaho State University

Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminology

Policy on Students' Use of Artificial Intelligence

This policy establishes general expectations, permissions, and restrictions for allowable student use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in coursework taken within the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminology at Idaho State University. The goal is to promote ethical, transparent, and academically honest use of AI while supporting innovation and learning. Artificial Intelligence tools may include generative systems such as ChatGPT, Claude, Copilot, Gemini, Perplexity, Deep Seek, POE, Grok, and other software capable of generating text, code, images, audio, data analysis, or recommendations. Whether or not student use of AI to complete coursework is allowed is determined by individual instructors and may vary by course and course section. If AI use is not clearly permitted in a particular class, students should **assume it is prohibited until clarified.**

Principles for acceptable AI use in the classroom

Students' use of AI to complete course assignments and other learning activities must align with and uphold the ethics, academic integrity, equity, and skill development principles outlined below:

Ethical Use

All student use of AI in coursework must uphold the core ethical values of:

- Beneficence: Use AI to enhance learning, not bypass it.
- Justice and Fairness: Avoid using AI to create inequitable advantages.
- Accountability: Students bear full responsibility for the accuracy and integrity of content produced or assisted by AI.
- Privacy: Never enter identifying or sensitive data into AI tools. Never enter your classmate's work or assignment prompts to AI.

Transparency and Disclosure

- Students must clearly acknowledge any use of AI in their academic work. This includes stating what tool was used and describing how it was used and its contribution to completed coursework.
- Disclose AI contributions in footnotes, acknowledgments, or as a separate "AI Use Statement."

Academic Integrity

- All work must reflect the student's own intellectual effort.
- AI is a tool, not a substitute for learning and completing work.

Equity

- Course policies must ensure access to AI tools does not disadvantage students without access to AI and related resources.
- To the extent possible, Idaho State University will provide students with access to AI tools for use consistent with this policy.

Skill Development

- When AI use is permitted, course policies should allow students to use AI tools to supplement, not replace, critical thinking and other academic skills.

Enforcement and outcomes

Violations of course AI policy will be treated as academic misconduct. Students who have inappropriately used AI in coursework may be subject, but not limited to, the following consequences, at the discretion of the course instructor:

1. The instructor may require the student to re-complete the assignment. This may be done for full or partial credit at the instructors discretion.
2. Failure on a specific assignment.
3. Course failure.
4. Referral to the Program Director, Department Chair, Dean of Students, Dean of CHES, Dean of the Graduate School, or other appropriate campus entity for further disciplinary action per established protocols for academic dishonesty and misconduct..
5. Challenges to a failing grade or course will be handled through the established protocols for academic dishonesty and misconduct.