

UNK Guidelines for Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Research and Creative Activity

AI, and more specifically Generative AI (GenAI), presents many opportunities as objects of study and application in Research and Creative Activity (RCA). However, there are risks associated with using AI including violating copyright, making confidential information publicly available, or misrepresenting its use.

Getting Started

If you are considering using AI in your RCA, the first step is to complete the training available in Bridge called **NU Generative AI Cybersecurity Awareness Training**. It will guide you through different types of AI along with NU policies such as data risk classifications.

Other available bridge trainings to consider are **HIPAA: Privacy and Security Basics** and **NU Fundamentals of FERPA**.

Guidelines for Use

1. Follow Ethical and Privacy Guidelines in AI Use

- Avoid inputting personally identifiable information into cloud-based AI tools and verify AI outputs to ensure accuracy and ethical integrity.

2. Maintain Transparency and Accountability

- Be prepared to disclose how AI was used in research, including tools, prompts, and outputs, following citation standards set by APA, MLA, and others.

3. Adhere to Disciplinary and Publication Standards

- Check guidelines from disciplinary organizations and ensure compliance with AI usage policies of relevant journals and conferences.

4. Understand Limitations and Responsibilities

- Recognize that AI cannot be held accountable for ethical violations, should not be credited as a co-author, and is restricted in processes like peer review by standards from bodies like the NIH.

Violation of University Policies

It is your responsibility to review and adhere to the following policies when considering using AI in your RCA. Failure to adhere to these (or other applicable) policies will be addressed by UNK's Research Noncompliance Policy or Faculty Senate's Professional Conduct Committee.

- [UNK Professional Code of Ethics](#)
- [UNK Institutional Review Board Policy](#)
 - Any use of AI in human subjects research must be included in IRB approval.
- [NU EM 27: HIPAA Compliance Policy](#)
- [NU EM 41: Policy on Research Data and Security](#)
- [NU EM 42: Policy on Risk Classification and Minimum Security Standards](#)
 - This policy sets forth criteria for classifying data, whether institutional or research data, in categories of Low, Medium, and High Risk, along with policy for appropriate use.