

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy for Students in Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Programs Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing

Purpose

This policy outlines appropriate and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies by students in both undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. It aims to ensure academic integrity, compliance with ethical standards, and proper application in clinical, educational, and research contexts.

Acceptable Use of AI

Students may use AI tools under the following circumstances:

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

- **Study and Review**
 - To supplement understanding of course content, such as generating summaries of complex topics, practicing NCLEX or advanced nursing examination-style questions, or clarifying nursing theories.
 - For organizing notes, creating study guides, or developing visual aids for learning.
- **Academic Writing Support**
 - For grammar checking, formatting citations, or improving clarity of writing.
 - To assist in structuring outlines or generating ideas for assignments, provided that all final submissions are the student's original work.
- **Research and Scholarship**
 - To generate ideas for research topics, explore gaps in literature, or assist with brainstorming potential methodologies (graduate students must critically evaluate and independently verify AI suggestions).
 - For data visualization, formatting references, or organizing research results, in compliance with academic integrity standards.
- **Clinical Preparation and Simulation**
 - For role-playing patient care scenarios, developing care plans, or practicing advanced clinical decision-making (e.g., evaluating complex patient cases for graduate-level clinical rotations).
 - To understand and analyze advanced nursing procedures or interventions in simulated contexts.

Graduate-Specific Use

- **Research and Evidence-Based Practice**
 - For assistance in synthesizing data, generating meta-analysis ideas, or mapping evidence

for systematic reviews.

- To explore concepts for capstone projects, theses, or dissertations, ensuring critical appraisal of AI outputs.

- **Advanced Clinical Application**

- To simulate decision-making scenarios or model patient management strategies, enhancing clinical reasoning skills.

Prohibited Use of AI

The use of AI is not allowed in the following scenarios:

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

1. Academic Integrity Violations

- a. Submitting AI-generated content as original work (e.g., essays, care plans, case studies, reflections, theses, or dissertations).
- b. Using AI to complete assessments or bypass critical thinking requirements (e.g., generating answers for exams, quizzes, or competency evaluations).

2. Clinical Settings

- a. Solely relying on AI for clinical decision-making or documentation without verification by a licensed healthcare provider or faculty.
- b. Inputting patient-identifiable or confidential information into AI systems, violating HIPAA or other privacy regulations.

3. Assignments and Assessments

- a. Using AI to complete assignments where independent student work is required unless explicitly stated by the instructor.
- b. Incorporating AI-generated content without proper citation or acknowledgment, even if stated by the instructor that it can be used.

4. Ethical Standards and Privacy

- a. Using AI to draft sensitive communications or documents without explicit faculty or supervisor approval.
- b. Misusing AI to manipulate or falsify data or information in academic or clinical work.

Graduate Specific Prohibited Use

1. End of Program Comprehensive Examination: Using AI to generate answers to questions on the End of Program Comprehensive Examination is strictly prohibited. These examinations are designed as an opportunity for the student to demonstrate knowledge and competence gained through their respective graduate program.

Responsibilities and Accountability

1. **Transparency:** Students must disclose their use of AI tools in assignments, projects, or research, clearly stating how AI contributed to their work. Proper acknowledgment of AI involvement is required.
2. **Skill Development:** Over-reliance on AI is discouraged, as it may hinder the development of critical thinking, advanced decision-making, and communication skills essential for nursing practice and leadership.
3. **Ethical Use:** Students are expected to critically evaluate AI outputs and ensure compliance with ethical and professional standards in nursing practice and research. It is the student's responsibility to validate the accuracy of the information generated by AI.

Consequences for Misuse

Violations of this policy will be addressed according to the nursing program's code of conduct and academic integrity policies. Penalties may include:

- Revision of assignments or required resubmission.
- Receiving a failing grade for the assignment, course, or program component.
- Further disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the program.

Additional Guidelines

- Personal Individual faculty have the freedom to further limit the use of AI in the courses they teach.
- Please consult the course syllabi and/or assignment criteria for additional guidelines.

Pittsburg State University Artificial Intelligence Policy

In addition to this policy, students must know and follow the Pittsburg State University Artificial Intelligence policy. Please see Article 30 of the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with evolving AI technologies and the needs of undergraduate and graduate nursing education.

Effective Date: December 12, 2024

Approved by: SONO