

The use of AI-assisted tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Bard, Bing Chat) in assessed work (dissertation, assignment, open-book examination)

Concerning the open-book examinations, any use of AI-assisted tools employing generative Large Language Models (such as ChatGPT, Google-Bard, or Bing Chat) is not allowed.

Concerning other assessed work (such as dissertations, assignments, ticks) for the Tripos, Part III, and MPhil, the short answer is that any material from those tools, such as text or code, taken directly or paraphrased, should not end up as a part of your assessed work.

The University guidelines (see <https://www.plagiarism.admin.cam.ac.uk/definition>) on the use of AI-assisted tools are as follows:

“The University has strict guidelines on student conduct and academic integrity. These stress that students must be the authors of their own work. Content produced by AI platforms, such as ChatGPT, would not be original work and so would be considered a form of academic misconduct to be dealt with under the University’s disciplinary procedures.”

Under no circumstances should the text or code generated by such AI-assisted tools be presented as your own work. If your work requires using such tools and showing their outputs, those outputs must be properly cited and the use must be declared (see Declaration of Originality). The use of writing aids, such as spell checkers or grammar checkers is allowed. If you are unsure whether a particular tool is allowed, please contact either the undergraduate or graduate teaching offices as relevant:

teaching-admin@cst.cam.ac.uk
acs-admin@cst.cam.ac.uk

Outside the open-book examination, you can use AI-assisted tools as long as its output is not incorporated (paraphrased or otherwise) into submitted work. Please bear in mind that AI-assisted tools can make factual errors, yet produce very believable text. Good academic standards require that you reach the sources of information (e.g. links in Bing chat), check that the presented facts are correct, and cite the source of information. You should use those AI-assisted tools only if you believe you can follow those standards and write your own original and well-researched text.

For all assessed works, the examiners may use software for detecting AI-generated answers/text and follow the University procedures for the investigation of academic misconduct if such cases are found. If a suspicion arises, students may be called to a viva where they will have the opportunity to demonstrate that the submitted work is their own.

The Examiners for 2022-23
Department of Computer Science and Technology

— For reference —

Extract from the draft ACM publication policy:

“AI and AI-assisted tools and technologies may not be listed as authors of an ACM published Work. The use of AI and AI assisted tools and technologies to create content must be fully disclosed in the Work. Basic word processing systems that recommend and insert replacement text or perform spelling or grammar checks and corrections are to be considered exceptions to this disclosure requirement and are generally allowable. Failure to do so may be treated as plagiarism by ACM. Please see ACM’s Plagiarism Policy for more information.”

Link to the Office of Student Conduct, Complaints and Appeals (OSCCA) website:

<https://www.studentcomplaints.admin.cam.ac.uk/staff-support/mark-checks-and-investigating-plagiarism>