



## **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Academic Integrity Policy for the Health Sciences Division**

The Health Sciences Division at Pikes Peak State College recognizes the increasing presence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in our academic setting. AI refers to computer systems or software that can perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence, such as learning, problem-solving, and language processing. The goal is to promote academic integrity, ensure fairness, and support effective learning. We would like to provide students with the following guidelines on the use of AI specific to our health sciences academic programs.

First and foremost, we are a science division, and our practice is built on research and evidence-based practice. Patient outcomes depend on our ethical practice and we take this responsibility seriously. We are invested in creating students who have critical thinking skills, clinical reasoning abilities, and prioritize patient safety. As faculty, our goal is to guide students in the use of new AI models while also asking that students create their own work and vet everything for accuracy. Faculty are dedicated to creating assignments that ask for personal experiences and reflections and allow the student to generate their own insights and analysis of a topic. Being able to find and apply quality research to our health sciences career fields is a key component of our division. This AI usage policy aims to foster a fair and effective learning environment for all students in the Health Sciences Division. By adhering to these guidelines, students can ensure their success in the program(s), board exams if applicable, and future workplace.

### **Acceptable uses of AI**

- Generating ideas, research, or creating an outline for a research paper. (AI use must be disclosed and cited in the correct APA format). Assignments must reflect student understanding of the topic. Ideas generated by AI must be critically evaluated and expanded on by the student, adding authentic thoughts, ideas, and insights. Students must be able to demonstrate their understanding independently.
- Utilizing AI-powered flashcards, quizzes, and other study aids to reinforce learning, while verifying the accuracy of the content.
- Using products like Grammarly to help with spelling, grammar, punctuation, and language proficiency.
- Accessing citation generators to help with references, but students must always double-check sources and provide DOI links for faculty.
- Using AI for an in-class activity with the faculty's permission.
- Using AI to explain complex concepts and provide additional examples.

## Unacceptable Uses of AI

- Using AI to complete assignments without disclosure, or submitting AI-generated work as one's own, is considered academic dishonesty. This includes using AI for essays, research papers, discussion boards, creative writing, SIM homework, or analytical responses without proper citations.
- Any “cut and paste” use of AI where the student asks a question and then cuts and pastes the answer for the assignment.
- Using AI tools when the instructor has forbidden it. Students should always consult with their instructor if they are unsure about the appropriate use of AI tools.
- Any use of AI that is uncited or undisclosed to the instructor is considered plagiarism.
- Relying on AI to complete assignments or projects without understanding the material bypasses learning. This includes using AI to write essays or solve problems without personal effort.

## AI Detection

- The division often uses AI and plagiarism software for key assignments in health sciences courses. This includes products such as Turnitin, Office 365 AI detector, and others. In addition, faculty review student work carefully, noting any inconsistencies in writing style, unusual vocabulary, or content that seems beyond the student's demonstrated ability.
- When unacceptable AI use or plagiarism is detected, the student will be notified immediately and an in-person or Zoom conference will be scheduled.
- If AI use is suspected, faculty may require students to reproduce the content in person. This may involve writing a similar essay, explaining their thought process, or demonstrating their knowledge through an oral examination.
- If AI use is confirmed, the student has used cut-and-paste features, and/or plagiarism or inadequate citation is present, the student will receive a zero on the assignment. In addition, the health sciences division will follow the college-wide Academic Honesty, Plagiarism, and Student Conduct policy, which may result in an additional grade reduction, course failure, or disciplinary action. Cases will be reported to the [Dean of Students office](#).

## Student Responsibilities

- Understand the Policy: Familiarize themselves with this AI usage policy and adhere to its guidelines.
- Develop Skills Independently: Use AI tools to supplement learning, not replace it. Emphasize critical thinking and personal effort.
- Maintain Integrity: Ensure that all submitted work is their own and properly attribute any AI assistance.
- Report Misuse: Report any observed misuse of AI tools to the appropriate authorities.