

Statement of the Faculty of Humanities, UD on the Use of AI-based Systems

25 September, 2023

As a consequence of recent and rapid developments in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) systems, significant changes also occur in the field of education, with fundamental implications for the way we teach and learn. The use of new AI systems provides enormous opportunities, but it has its risks as well. The Faculty of Humanities, UD does not prohibit but encourages the use of AI-based systems in accordance with current legislation and academic ethical standards, in order to meet the requirements of the labour market. In line with this, the Faculty strives to equip its staff and students with the skills that will enable them to use the opportunities offered by AI responsibly in their studies and future career while, at the same time, helping them avoid the risks inherent in such systems.

With this in mind, we set out the following guidelines:

The Faculty of Humanities will continuously monitor the technical and regulatory changes emerging in the field and will develop and review the faculty guidelines in accordance with the current rules of the University of Debrecen, also involving various stakeholders (students, instructors, representatives of the labour market).

The Faculty aims to develop the skills required to use AI-based systems through workshops and courses, and integrate the latest tools into teaching.

In addition to providing a supportive and facilitative approach to the use of new systems (including, e.g., mentoring programmes and trainings), in line with international standards and current university regulations, the Faculty requires that the use of AI-based systems is carried out in a responsible, ethical and transparent manner and while developing these skills also expects students to work independently. Students remain responsible for the acquisition of the knowledge and skills specified in the requirements of their specific degree programme and for producing the assignments showcasing their individual work expected during their studies (e.g. in the form of essays, theses etc.). When using AI-generated texts in submitted written work, students are responsible for any errors in the text, for the correctness of the content and conclusions, and for the veracity of the text. Furthermore, the submitted text can only be accepted as the independent work of the student if the substantive part of the text is truly and clearly the result of independent work.

In their submissions, students should document, in the manner/citation style required by their given discipline, the purpose and the way in which they have relied on the use of AI-based systems and the precise content parts that have been derived from such sources.

In judging misuse of AI-based systems, the Faculty of Humanities will act in the same way as it would in cases of plagiarism, using necessary and reasonable methods and procedures to verify independent work (e.g. oral exams to verify students' knowledge). Course instructors are responsible for determining specific expectations and options relevant for their discipline or course.

Because of the diversity of considerations applicable to different disciplines, the Faculty encourages its institutes and departments to establish and implement their own discipline-specific guidelines consistent with this statement.