

# GSLS GenAI Research Project Guidelines for Master's students and supervisors

These guidelines serve as a complement to the GSLS [Student](#) and [Teacher](#) GenAI guidelines, specifically tailored to the context of GSLS research projects. They provide critical insights into the use of GenAI tools in a research setting, advocating for a human-centred, balanced, and ethical approach. Their aim is to offer clear and practical guidance for both students and supervisors, facilitating the effective and responsible integration of GenAI technologies into our academic research.

Before using GenAI in your research projects, students and supervisors must discuss how much they feel GenAI can be used. Wrongful use of GenAI can be considered fraud as specified [in the EER](#).

## What students can do

- **Idea Development:** Utilize GenAI for brainstorming and generating research ideas and hypotheses.
- **Research Design:** Utilize GenAI tools to help think about what research designs and theoretical frameworks best suit your research questions.
- **Assisting Literature Review:** Utilize GenAI tools such as Consensus, SciteAI, and Semantic Scholar to help identify appropriate research literature while maintaining a balance with traditional searches engines such as PubMed and Scopus.
- **Editing and Refinement:** Use GenAI for grammar checking, as a translation tool, and improving research drafts. You could also use them to help reduce biased and leading language in research questions.

## What students must do

- **Consult with Supervisors:** You should also always consult with your supervisor about any content generated by the tools. For example, if a tool helped generate a research project idea, make sure to first discuss this idea with your supervisor before commencing the research.
- **Keep detailed records:** All prompt conversations should be saved by students in a research file. This file should be made available on request from a supervisor. For students who have turned off their training data, screen shots of prompt histories must be saved in a research file.
- **Ethical and Transparent Use:** Adhere to ethical standards in GenAI usage. Maintain transparency in GenAI's role throughout the research process, including document editing. You must provide this information either in a statement at the end of the research paper/project or within a disclosure agreement between you and your supervision team.

**Example statement:** For this project I used [GenAI tool/s] to translate text [specific details how], generate ideas [for what], and provide feedback on my writing style. Then provide the tool reference e.g. OpenAI Chat-GPT 3.5 January 2024.

- **Critically Evaluate GenAI Output:** Students must rigorously assess the validity and relevance of GenAI-generated content. This includes verifying the accuracy of information, ensuring alignment with research objectives, and understanding the limitations and potential biases of GenAI tools. Critical evaluation also involves cross-referencing with established research and data to ensure integrity and reliability in their academic work. For more information about how to critically evaluate GenAI output please see the GSLS Open Access Student and Teacher Tutorials.

## What students must not do

- **Input Sensitive Information and Data:** Students should not share any sensitive, personal, or raw and unpublished data with GenAI tools even if the training data has been turned off and anonymised. A proper risk assessment will need to be conducted on these tools before this will be allowed.

This document provides an overview of key principles for using GenAI in research within the GSLS framework. For more detailed information on the specific 'can do,' 'cannot do,' and 'must do' aspects of GenAI usage, please refer to the comprehensive GSLS Student and Teacher GenAI Guidelines. Should you have further queries or require additional clarification, we encourage you to reach out to us at [GSLSGenAISupport@umcutrecht.nl](mailto:GSLSGenAISupport@umcutrecht.nl) for support and guidance.