# Welcome to the survey: Shaping the Future of AI in Academic Writing!

New developments in the field of artificial intelligence will radically change academic writing and study. By participating in this survey, you have the opportunity to influence these changes. Because only if it is known, **whether, how and why AI writing tools are used by students**, can universities respond with **support offerings** and adapted forms of examination. The aim of this survey is therefore to collect your experiences with AI writing tools in order to better adapt teaching and study to **student needs**.

An important clarification of terms in advance: Unless explicitly indicated, we use the term *AI writing tool* for AI applications like ChatGPT or related tools that generate new content. (So, we do not mean AI tools like DeepL, Grammarly etc., which translate or correct existing texts, unless explicitly mentioned).

Filling out the questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes.

Your participation in this survey is, of course, voluntary. All data collected will be evaluated according to current data protection regulations.

We thank you very much for your time and look forward to your responses! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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**How do you think AI writing tools will impact your studies?**

○ Positvely

○ Negatively

○ Not at all

○ Not specified

**Before we ask you about AI writing tools in particular, we would first like to hear about your general views on academic writing.**

**Please rate the following statements (1/2):**

I can set myself specific writing goals

| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can organize my ideas even when I work on a complex topic.

| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can motivate myself to start writing.

| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can solve problems which occur during writing.

| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can concentrate on writing.

Completely applies

Mostly applies

Rather applies

Rather does not apply

Mostly does not apply

Does not apply at all

*Not specified*

I can use my time for writing effectively.

Completely applies

Mostly applies

Rather applies

Rather does not apply

Mostly does not apply

Does not apply at all

*Not specified*

F202

Before we ask you about AI writing tools in particular, we would first like to hear about your general views on academic writing.

F204

**Please rate the following statements (2/2):**

I can change my writing strategy if I recognize that I am not successful.

| |
|---|
| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can meet the criteria for text quality I set myself.

| |
|---|
| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can realistically assess my progress when writing.

| |
|---|
| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I can avoid repeating an error.

| |
|---|
| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |
| *Not specified* |

I feel like I have my own style in academic writing.

| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |

| *Not specified* |

It is important to me to write texts in my own words.

| Completely applies |
| Mostly applies |
| Rather applies |
| Rather does not apply |
| Mostly does not apply |
| Does not apply at all |

| *Not specified* |

F303 ▣

**Have you already used a text-generating AI writing tool like ChatGPT (in any context)?**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

☐ Yes, I have already used ChatGPT.

☐ Yes, I have already used another AI writing tool (e.g., jenni.ai, copy.ai, Jasper, Open Assistant...).

☐ No, I have never used an AI writing tool.

☐ Not specified

**2 Active Filter(s)**

**Filter F303/F1**
If any of the following options is selected: **1, 2**
Then hide the questionnaire page(s) **10** (otherwise display them)

**Filter F303/F2**
If any of the following options is selected: **3**
Then hide the questionnaire page(s) **6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16** (otherwise display them)

The following questions refer to AI applications like ChatGPT that generate new content. They do not refer to tools like DeepL, grammarly, etc. that translate or correct existing text.

**In what language(s) have you had AI writing tools like ChatGPT generate text?**

F304

Please select one or multiple answer options.

☐ German

☐ English

☐ Other [                    ]

☐ Not specified

## Have you used an AI writing tool in your studies?

Please select one answer option.

○ Yes

○ No

───────────────────────────────

○ Not specified

┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│ **1 Active Filter(s)**                                    │
│                                                           │
│ **Filter F305/F1**                                        │
│ If any of the following options is selected: **2**        │
│ Then hide the questionnaire page(s) **8, 10, 13, 15** (otherwise display them) │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘

## Have you already used an AI writing tool for private uses?

Please select one answer option.

○ Yes

○ No

───────────────────────────────

○ Not specified

## Have you used an AI writing tool professionally?

Please select one answer option.

○ Yes

○ No

───────────────────────────────

○ Not specified

**The following questions refer to AI applications like ChatGPT that generate new content. They do not refer to tools like DeepL, grammarly, etc. that translate or correct existing text.**

**For what purposes did you use an AI writing tool when writing for university?**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

- ☐ Generate research questions
- ☐ Find sources
- ☐ Summarize sources
- ☐ Analyze (raw) data
- ☐ Translate sources
- ☐ Develop an outline
- ☐ Develop arguments
- ☐ Formulate my notes as complete sentences or paragraphs
- ☐ Correct my text on the content level
- ☐ Improve my text on the language level
- ☐ Translate my text
- ☐ Create a bibliography
- ☐ Other _____

- ☐ Not specified

**Have you ever generated a complete text for a university course using an AI writing tool?**

Please select one option.

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

- ○ Not specified

**How often have you used an AI writing tool for your purposes as stated above in the 2023 summer semester?**

Please select one option.

- ○ Never
- ○ Very rarely (less than once a month)
- ○ Rarely (once a month)
- ○ Sometimes (several times a month)
- ○ Often (once a week)
- ○ Very often (several times a week)
- ○ Daily

- ○ Not specified

**The next question is about AI tools such as DeepL or Grammarly, which do not generate new content but translate or correct existing text. This is the only question about non-generating AI tools.**

**Have you used other (non-text-generating) AI applications to assist with writing in your studies**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

- ☐ No, I have not used any other applications.
- ☐ Yes, for literature research (e.g., Elicit, ResearchRabbit, Semantic Scholar, Connected Papers...).
- ☐ Yes, for text comprehension (e.g., ChatPDF, Explainpaper, ...)
- ☐ Yes, for editing language (e.g., DeepL, DeepL Write, Language Tool, Grammarly, ...)
- ☐ Yes, for other purposes, namely [_____]

- ☐ Not specified

**As of now, all questions are again related to generative AI writing tools, such as ChatGPT.**

**Why haven't you worked with an AI writing tool yet?**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

- ☐ I did not know that such tools exist.
- ☐ I am not sure how to integrate such tools into my writing process.
- ☐ I have not seen a need to use such tools.
- ☐ I have concerns about using such tools (explanation follows in next question).
- ☐ I lack the technical knowledge to use such tools.
- ☐ Other reasons: [_____]

- ☐ Not specified

**As of now, all questions are again related to generative AI writing tools, such as ChatGPT.**

**Do you intend to use or continue to use an AI writing tool for your studies in the future?**

○ Yes

○ No

○ I don't know

○ Not specified

**Please evaluate the following statements.**

AI writing tools are useful in writing academic texts.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

The content quality of the texts generated by AI writing tools is high.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

The use of AI writing tools is fundamentally unscientific.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

I feel competent in the use of AI writing tools.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

I have concerns about using AI writing tools in exam contexts.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

I am concerned about the security of my (personal) data when using AI writing tools.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

I have (other) ethical concerns about using AI writing tools.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| Not specified |
|---|

The following questions relate to your previous experience with using text-generating AI writing tools for your studies.

## Please evaluate the following statements.

I am satisfied with the content quality of the AI-generated outputs.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not specified | | |

I am satisfied with the linguistic quality of the AI-generated outputs.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not specified | | |

I believe that using AI writing tools improves the quality of my texts.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not specified | | |

I usually revise the AI-generated outputs before using them for texts in my studies.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not specified | | |

Formulating prompts (inputs) is easy for me.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not specified | | |

If I am not satisfied with an output, I try to improve it by rewording prompts.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not specified | | |

**When you are not satisfied with the outputs of an AI writing tool, what are the reasons?**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

☐ Imprecision

☐ Invented sources

☐ Lack of transparency as to where information comes from

☐ Incorrect statements

☐ Contradictory statements

☐ Irrelevant to my writing project

☐ Low-quality language or style

☐ Other reason, namely [                    ]

☐ I am fully satisfied with the outputs.

☐ Not specified

**How have AI writing tools helped you with your university writing specifically?**

If you like, you can give us more information here. Answering this question is not mandatory, but it helps us immensely.

**What do you find particularly difficult about using AI writing tools for university writing?**

If you like, you can give us more information here. Answering this question is not mandatory, but it helps us immensely.

F501 ▣

**To what extent do the following statements apply to you?**

**I use AI writing tools...**

... to save time.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to have the content of my text revised.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to correct the language of my work.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to find new ideas and information for my writing project.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... because academic writing is difficult for me.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to learn how to use the tools.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... because their use is required.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to get inspired.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to improve my grades.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to reduce my workload.

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| No response / does not apply. |
|---|

... to write texts in a language I don't know very well

| Do not agree at all | Rather disagree | Undecided | Rather agree | Fully agree |

No response / does not apply.

F601 ▫

**In how many courses in the 2023 summer semester were you encouraged to use AI writing tools as part of the course?**

Please select one option.

○ In no course

○ In one course

○ In two courses

○ In three courses

○ In more than three courses

○ Not specified

F602 ▫

**In how many courses in the 2023 summer semester were you prohibited from using AI writing tools as part of the course?**

Please select one option.

○ In no course

○ In one course

○ In two courses

○ In three courses

○ In more than three courses

○ Not specified

F603 ▫

**Are there any regulations at your college/university regarding the use of AI writing tools?**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

☐ Yes, there are university-wide regulations.

☐ Yes, there are regulations specific to my program or department.

☐ Yes, lecturers have regulated the use individually.

☐ No, there are no regulations at all.

☐ I do not know.

☐ Not specified

**1 Active Filter(s)**

**Filter F603/F1**
If any of the following options is selected: **1, 2**
Then display question/text **F604** placed later in the questionnaire (otherwise hide)

**What are the regulations at your college/university regarding the use of AI writing tools?**

Please select one answer option.

- ○ AI-generated text may be used without restriction.
- ○ AI-generated text may be used with attribution.
- ○ AI-generated text may only be used for specific purposes.
- ○ AI-generated text may not be used.
- ○ Other, namely [_____]

---

- ○ Not specified

**In which country are you studying regularly?**

Please select one option.

○ Germany

○ Austria

○ Switzerland

○ Not specified

**Which college/university are you attending?**

Type in the name of your college/university to receive suggestions.

[                                        ]  ☐ Not specified

**What degree are you currently pursuing?**

Please select one or multiple answer options.

☐ Bachelor (B.A / B.Sc)

☐ Master (M.A / M. Sc / MBA)

☐ Magister or Diplom

☐ Teaching degree

☐ State examination

☐ Doctorate

☐ Other

☐ Not specified

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**1 Active Filter(s)**

**Filter F703/F1**
If any of the following options is selected: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5**
Then display question/text **F705** placed later in the questionnaire (otherwise hide)

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**In what larger field of study is your current study program?**

Please select one option.

- ☐ Linguistics and cultural studies
- ☐ Theology, Ethics/Philosophy
- ☐ Psychology
- ☐ Sports science, sports pedagogy
- ☐ Social and educational sciences
- ☐ Law
- ☐ Economics
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Computer science
- ☐ Natural sciences
- ☐ Medicine / Health Sciences
- ☐ Agricultural, forestry, nutritional sciences
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Art, Fine Art, Music
- ☐ Other [              ]

- ☐ Not specified

F705 ▣

**In which university semester (total study time) are you?**

Please enter your semester as a whole number.

[          ]

F706 ▣

**How would you rate your academic performance in comparison to your fellow students?**

|  | below average |  | average |  | Above average | Not specified |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Please select one option. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**Have you used any extracurricular offers from your university for dealing with AI tools in the 2023 summer semester?**

F707

Please select one option.

○ Yes

○ No

○ Not specified

**Have you used, at any point in your studies, extracurricular offers from your university that support academic writing (e.g., writing center, writing consultation, workshops, extracurricular tutorials...)?**

F708

Please select one option.

○ Yes

○ No

○ Not specified

**Do you currently work in a writing didactic institution (writing center), or have you worked in one before (e.g., as a writing consultant or peer tutor, a writing fellow, or with a similar activity in writing consulting or writing didactics)?**

F709

Please select one option.

○ Yes

○ No

○ Not specified

# Almost there!

We appreciate your openness and time invested in sharing your personal experiences and opinions with us. In the next section, we would like to learn some demographic information from you. This data will be used for statistical purposes only and will help us better understand and interpret the results of this survey.

**In which year were you born?**

Please enter your year of birth (example: 1997)

Year of birth: _____

**Please enter your gender.**

Please select one option.

○ Masculine

○ Feminine

○ Miscellaneous

○ Not specified

**For you, German is a...**

Please select one option.

○ First language (i.e., the first language you spoke).

○ Second language (i.e., a language you use in everyday life and know very well, but which is not your first language).

○ Foreign language

○ Not specified

**What is the highest level of education either of your parents has achieved?**

Please select one option.

○ Elementary school/secondary school (at least 8th grade)

○ Secondary school certificate (10th grade)

○ Abitur, A-Levels, or other higher education entrance qualification

○ University degree

○ Doctorate

○ No degree (less than 8th grade)

○ Not specified

**Where were your parents born?**

Please select one option.

○ Both outside of Germany

○ One parent outside of Germany

○ Both in the country where you are now studying

---

○ Not specified

Z101

**What support do you think stakeholders at universities (e.g., university administr... writing centers, professors/lecturers) should give students regarding the use of ...**

If you like, you can give us more information here. Answering this question is not mand...

Z102

**Is there anything else you would like to say about AI writing tools?**

If you like, you can give us more information here. Answering this question is not mandatory, but it helps us immensely.

**Last Page**

# Thank you very much for your participation!

We would like to sincerely thank you for your assistance in enabling our research. The future of AI in education is and will continue to be an exciting field of research.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact us: Nora Hoffmann (n.hoffmann@em.uni-frankfurt.de), Helena Grünebaum (gruenebaum@em.uni-frankfurt.de), Alexander Kaib (akaib@em.uni-frankfurt.de), and Simon Kamps (simon.kamps@stud.srh-campus-dresden.de).

Your responses have been saved. You may now close the browser window.