Generative AI - where are we now and what's next?

Nia Ellis and Jim Woolley

librarians@aber.ac.uk | elearning@aber.ac.uk



Poll

- Aim of poll:
 - Survey the landscape of Generative AI at Aberystwyth University
 - Pool together what we're using
 - Start to think through some of the challenges
 - <u>https://vevox.app/#/m/155575269</u>



Is there a need for university-wide guidance?

- HE sector practice
- Research into students' attitudes to GenAl
- UndebAber and student feedback
- Academic staff feedback

Higher Education Results



Attewell S. (2025) *AI and JISC's Leadership Survey 2025*. Available online at <u>https://nationalcentreforai.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2025/05/01/ai-and-jiscs-leadership-survey-2025/</u>. (Accessed 1 July 2025).

How did we decide what's needed?

- Working Group with representation from Registry, UndebAber, Library and Learning Services
- Collected stakeholder feedback from various academic departments and professional services departments

Students are embracing AI, but they want clear, fair, and practical support to use it responsibly

Attewell S. (2025) *Student perceptions of AI 2025*. Available online at <u>https://nationalcentreforai.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2025/05/21/student-perceptions-of-ai-2025/</u> (Accessed 30 June 2025).

We identified need for:

- 1. Overall statement/policy for AU
- 2. A short and easily understandable guide for students
- 3. Statements that academic staff can use in their assignment briefs to advise students on whether they can use Gen Al or not
- 4. A statement for students at the point of submitting an assignment on Turnitin
- 5. A way for students to acknowledge their use of GenAI

Resources

- Generative Al webpage
- Statement on the use of Generative Al
- <u>Guidance for students on using</u> <u>Generative Al</u>
- <u>Generative AI e-submission template</u> <u>statement</u>
- <u>Generative Al Assessment Learning</u>
 <u>Object Repository statements</u>
- <u>Generative AI Tool Use Statement</u> (created by Dr Megan Talbot)

Canllawiau Cyflwyno / Submission Guidance

Cyflwyno eich aseiniad:

• <u>Sut ydw i'n cyflwyno aseiniad yn Turnitin?</u> • <u>Sut ydw i'n dod o hyd i fy adborth aseiniad Turnitin</u>?

Uniondeb academaidd:

<u>Canllaw i fyfyrwyr ar Gyfeirnodi a Llên-ladrad</u>
 <u>Rheoliad ar Ymarfer Academaidd Annerbyniol</u>

Defnyddio DA Cynhyrchiol yn eich asesiadau

Gallai cyflwyno gwaith a gynhyrchwyd gan DA Cynhyrchiol fel eich gwaith eich hun arwain at gyhuddiadau o <u>Ymddygiad Academaidd Annerbyniol</u>. Gall cydlynydd eich modiwl roi gwybodaeth i chi ynghylch defnydd derbyniol o DA Cynhyrchiol ar gyfer eich asesiad. Am ragor o wybodaeth, gweler y <u>dudalen we Deallusrwydd Artiffisial</u> a'r <u>Canllawiau i fyfyrwyr ar ddefnyddio DA Cynhyrchiol</u>.

Submitting your assignment:

How do I submit an assignment in Turnitin?

How do I find my Turnitin assignment feedback?

Academic integrity:

- <u>Student guide to Referencing and Plagiarism</u>
- <u>Regulation on Unacceptable Academic Practice</u>

Using Generative AI in your assessments

Presenting work generated by Generative AI as if it were your own may result in allegations of <u>Unacceptable Academic Practice</u>. Your module co-ordinator can provide you with information regarding acceptable Generative AI use for your assessment. For further information, see the <u>Artificial Intelligence webpage</u> and <u>Guidance for Students on Using Generative AI</u>.

Further findings from the stakeholder meetings

- The provision of advice to students across departments is patchy and at various stages of development.
- Academic Integrity is a huge concern for academic staff and for students, and advice given to students is inconsistent.
- Staff need support to understand the implications of Gen AI and on how to support students in understanding the role of Gen AI in their academic studies.
- Al and assessment: there are many areas of innovative and insightful best practice at the university where academic staff are exploring uses of AI with their students and developing students' AI literacy,
- Departments would welcome an AI literacy resource for students with a quiz which would be linked to Aladdin to track engagement.
- Al and accessibility and Al to support neurodivergent students are two areas that would benefit from more investigation
- Students want the opportunity to develop their AI literacy skills to use AI responsibly and effectively, and to prepare them for the workplace
- Students expressed concerns about the ethical use and environmental impact of using AI.



Poll

• Aim of poll: future of Generative AI at Aberystwyth University



Our future plans

- Create an AI literacy tutorial primarily aimed at students providing an introduction to using Gen AI.
- Review the Academic Quality Handbook to ensure that Gen AI is embedded into the content.
- Al through the medium of Welsh. To assess whether separate additional guidance is needed for students and staff working through the medium of Welsh and if so, to provide guidance/tutorial.
- Create a roll-out plan of communicating these guidelines to staff and students
- Work with Student Services to provide support on using Gen AI to support accessibility.

What Makes a Good Prompt?

Think of an effective prompt like a formula:

👉 Task + Topic + Structure + Style + Level

Let's Look at an Example: Building a Prompt for a Library Search

Let's look at how we might build an effective AI prompt to help you develop a keyword search for finding academic books in the library.

i Element	What It Means	📌 Examples
\delta Task	What do you want the AI to do?	Generate keywords, Suggest search terms, Recommend resources
🧧 Topic	What's it about?	English Romanticism, Wordsworth, Coleridge
► Structure	How should it be formatted?	Bullet point list, Short paragraph, Search string
💉 Style	What tone or approach?	Academic, Reflective, Informal

Our future plans

- Work with colleagues so there's at least one assessment on a core module in every degree scheme that requires students to use Generative AI
- Using Microsoft Copilot for Learning and Teaching Activities
- Pull together and promote a bank of Generative AI case studies
- Collaborate on those working on Academic Integrity to ensure that a consistent message is conveyed to staff and students.
- Continue collaborating with students, Undeb Aber and both academic and professional services staff to ensure the documentation remains consistent, correct and meets the needs of the university.



Diolch / Thank you

librarians@aber.ac.uk | *elearning@aber.ac.uk*

