



Copyright and Generative AI (GenAI): a guide for use in teaching

UTS encourages ethical, informed engagement with GenAI in learning and teaching. GenAI can be used in teaching as a support tool, to help explain, draft, and design learning activities.

It is important, however, to consider copyright when using such tools.











Uploading or copying material in GenAI tools may infringe on the copyright of others. It is also important that personal or confidential material is not shared within AI systems that use inputs to train their systems.

The table below provides you with a guide on what you need to consider before uploading copyright material in both 'public' or 'private' GenAI tools (inputs).

“Public” AI models refer to GenAI tools that are often available and free. These models tend to be trained on content added or uploaded by users.

“Private” GenAI models are those that run in a secure and protected environment. Often these models involve an additional subscription and/or settings that ensure shared material is not being used for model training or platform improvements

This guide should be read in conjunction with [Copyright and Generative AI](#) webpage.

Type of content	Public AI	Private AI	Description/Conditions
Public Domain (no copyright)			<p>Public domain material includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials where copyright has expired Works that creators have explicitly released into the public domain Uncopyrightable works such as facts, ideas and certain types of data
Copyright materials where you have permission to use			<p>Any material in which you have the written permission to use from the copyright owner. This includes permission granted by students to use works created by them as part of their studies (see 3.9 UTS Student Rules)</p>
Materials that you have created (outside of your employment at UTS)			<p>This covers materials in which you have created, with some exceptions.</p> <p>The following should not be uploaded to any AI tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where you have included 'third party' copyright material within your own work (e.g. an image created by someone else) and do not have permission for this content Materials you have published (e.g. article) where copyright is owned by the publisher and uploading to AI is not permitted <p>Note: Course and educational material created during your employment at UTS is owned by UTS, see next row for details.</p>
UTS owned materials			<p>This covers materials created by UTS staff in the course of their employment, such as course materials and lecture slides, documents, and website content. Any generated content from UTS owned materials should not be publicly shared, and only used for UTS purposes, or for teaching needs.</p>
Open licences such as Creative Commons (CC) licencing			<p>Creative Commons materials can be used for certain purposes with GenAI tools; however, some uses may be limited depending on the licensing elements involved. All CC licenced materials incorporated into GENAI outputs will require attribution</p> <p>To determine whether and when you need to comply with Creative Commons license terms when using CC licenced content for AI use, see the Creative Commons Flowchart</p>



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Publisher Licence Material i.e. digital material available from the UTS Library subscription platforms (e.g. e-journals, e-books etc.)			<p>This includes any materials accessed via UTS's Library catalogue or databases.</p> <p>In general, publishers do not allow their content to be used by AI</p>
Freely available web content or scans of print material such as digital copies made from print/physical books or journals			<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A scanned copy from a print/physical material such as book chapters and articles• Uploading content from freely available web content such as webpages and images <p>Only a reasonable amount (1 chapter or 1 article) can be used in Private AI systems for teaching purposes. See Manage Your Content for limits and conditions.</p> <p>Where generated outputs include a substantial portion of the uploaded material, it can be shared under this licence.</p> <p>Note: statutory licence cannot be relied on for adaption of a work such as translations.</p>

Additional information

Always remember to [acknowledge and/or reference your use of AI](#)

Refer to [Education Express](#) guidance on AI in learning and teaching