UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Participant Information Leaflet for Academics

Study Title: Navigating the ethical complexities of using generative AI for academic writing

Investigator(s): Professor Ema Ushioda (University of Warwick); Dr Marianna Patrick (University of Warwick); Dr Sal Consoli (University of Edinburgh); Dr Richard Pinner (Sophia University, Tokyo); Ms Hikaru Ishiyama (Sophia University, Tokyo)

Introduction

You are invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take the time to read the following information carefully. Talk to others about the study if you wish.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is led by Professor Ema Ushioda (Principal Investigator) and supported by Dr Marianna Patrick (Research Fellow), based at the University of Warwick. It is conducted in collaboration with co-investigators Dr Sal Consoli (University of Edinburgh), Dr Richard Pinner (Sophia University, Tokyo) and Ms Hikaru Ishiyama (Sophia University, Tokyo). It is funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

What is the study about?

This study is about understanding academics' and students' experiences and perspectives in using generative AI chatbot tools (e.g., ChatGPT) to support academic English writing tasks, such as publications and coursework assignments. We are interested in exploring how working with such tools shapes your sense of authorship and academic integrity as a writer and how you navigate any ethical challenges you encounter.

What would taking part involve?

Taking part in this study involves completing a self-guided anonymous survey hosted by the online survey platform Qualtrics. The online survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and involves answering a series of questions relating to your thoughts, feelings, and experiences of using generative AI for your academic writing. You will also be asked some demographic information (e.g., language background) to help us understand the characteristics of those who took part.

Do I have to take part?

No. Participation in this study is completely voluntary and choosing not to take part will not affect you in any way. You can also choose to withdraw your participation without giving a reason by contacting one of the research team. Further details about withdrawing from the

study are provided later on in this document.

What are the possible benefits of taking part in this study?

By participating in this study and sharing your personal experiences and perspectives, you will contribute valuable insights that will help inform understanding of good practice in working with AI tools in academic writing and publishing. This understanding will benefit current and future academic writers, in a context where hybrid human-AI writing is increasingly becoming the norm.

What are the possible disadvantages, side effects or risks, of taking part in this study?

There are no foreseeable disadvantages in taking part in this study. If you do not feel comfortable answering a particular question, you can skip the questions or opt not to without giving a reason. It is completely up to you to what degree and in what depth you want to address any questions or topics. We also want to assure you that your practices relating to the use of AI tools are not the subject of critical judgment or scrutiny in this study and any perspectives you share will be treated with complete confidentiality.

Expenses and payments

There will be no expenses or payments available for taking part in this study.

Will my taking part be kept confidential?

- Data will be collected through a self-guided anonymous survey hosted by the online survey platform Qualtrics and will not include any personally identifiable information.
- The anonymous data will be processed for the purpose of exploring general trends and patterns relating to GenAI use for academic writing.
- The anonymous data will be stored securely in a password-protected shared folder in the PI's IT account at Warwick and will be accessible only to the research project team.
- Only the researchers will have access to your data.
- Anonymised data in the form of statistical information or quotes from text-box answers may be used in research publications and presentations.

What will happen to the data collected about me?

As a publicly-funded organisation, the University of Warwick have to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information from people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, such as this, we will use your data in the ways needed to conduct and analyse the research study.

We will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. We are committed to protecting the rights of individuals in line with data protection legislation. The University of Warwick will information about you for 10 years after the study has finished.

No identifiable data will be collected from you as part of this study. This means that once your responses have been submitted to the research team, it will not be possible to withdraw this data as your individual responses cannot be identified.

Data Sharing

Anonymous data will be shared with project co-investigators at the University of Edinburgh and Sophia University, Tokyo. A Data Processing/Sharing Agreement has been provided and approved as part of the collaboration agreement among the universities.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. The University of Warwick has in place policies and procedures to keep your data safe.

This data may also be used for future research, including impact activities following review and approval by an independent Research Ethics Committee and subject to your consent at the outset of this research project.

For further information, please refer to the University of Warwick Research Privacy Notice which is available here:
https://warwick.ac.uk/services/idc/dataprotection/privacynotices/researchprivacynotice or by contacting the Legal and Compliance Team at infocompliance@warwick.ac.uk.

What will happen if I don't want to carry on being part of the study?

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to withdraw from the online survey at any time without giving a reason and without any negative effect to you. You can withdraw from the study by closing the survey window without submitting your responses.

Please note that after submitting your responses, it will not be possible to request withdrawal of your data as individual responses cannot be identified in the anonymous dataset.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results of the study will be published and presented. This may include journal articles, book chapters, or conference presentations.

Who has reviewed the study?
This study has been reviewed and given favourable opinion by the University of Warwick's Humanities and Social Science Research Ethics Committee (HSSREC) HSSREC 280/25-26.

Who should I contact if I want further information?
Professor Ema Ushioda, e.ushioda@warwick.ac.uk

Who should I contact if I wish to make a complaint?

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm you might have suffered will be addressed. Please address your complaint to the person below, who is a senior University of Warwick official entirely independent of this study:

Head of Research Governance
Research & Impact Services
University House
University of Warwick
Coventry
CV4 8UW
Email: researchgovernance@warwick.ac.uk
Tel: 02476 575733

If you wish to raise a complaint on how we have handled your personal data, you can contact our Data Protection Officer who will investigate the matter: DPO@warwick.ac.uk.

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data in a way that is not lawful you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

Thank you for taking the time to read this Participant Information Leaflet