

CHAPTER 6: Program AI Policy

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in SJSU MS Clinical Psychology Courses

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The SJSU MS Clinical program teaches future clinicians how to think clinically, how to develop case conceptualization skills, and how to develop self-reflection skills and professional judgment to apply to clients with real and complex problems and presentations. The coursework in the MS Clinical Psychology program requires students to independently develop clinical reasoning, reflection, ethical judgment, and professional writing skills. While new developments with AI will find their place in our field and in our personal lives, in the realm of clinical education, this technology counteracts the type of learning that our program values. In the mental health field, errors that occur due to the use of AI have the potential to cause great harm to clients, first and foremost, and to the field of mental health more widely.

The MS Clinical Psychology program's AI policy is informed by the [California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists' Code of Ethics](#).

The default program policy is that AI use is prohibited unless explicitly authorized by the instructor in writing or in the course syllabus. When AI use is permitted, students must disclose the specific tool used, the purpose of use, and the extent to which AI contributed to the assignment. This is consistent with CAMFT Code 6.5 (Disclosures for Use of Telehealth, Technology, and AI) and 6.6 (Informed Consent for Use of Telehealth, Technology, and AI).

If there is no policy specified in a course syllabus, students do not have permission to use AI in any form. "AI" includes generative artificial intelligence tools and machine-learning systems that generate, rewrite, summarize, edit, paraphrase, or analyze content on behalf of the student. Examples include ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Grammarly generative rewrite functions, Microsoft Copilot, and similar tools. This policy applies to all course content, including academic milestones (Psyc 298; comprehensive exams), course exams, and course assignments. Unless explicitly allowed in the policies at a practicum site, students may not upload client information, practicum materials, case notes, recordings, assessment data, or any protected or identifying information into AI platforms under any circumstances.

Should an instructor suspect that AI has been utilized in an assignment where permission was not obtained, or AI use was not documented, this is an ethical violation and will come to the clinical committee for discussion of

next steps. The committee may request that the student turn in an alternate composition, completed in class without the use of any technology. The committee also has the right to file an Academic Dishonesty report with the university. All of these actions will likely affect the grade that the student receives on the assignment and in the course. Students are encouraged to review the policy on [Academic Disqualification and Dismissal](#), which details the grade requirements to progress in the program and the requirement that students adhere to professional standards. Because AI technologies are rapidly evolving, this policy may be revised as ethical standards, institutional guidance, and professional practices develop.