

Generative AI in OU learning: tool or just talk?

This was our advert...



- Do you see the news about AI and get scared or excited? Do you see generative AI as a tool for the future or a sneaky way to get a computer to do the legwork? Is the true picture even that polarised?
- Within the OU, generative AI is being discussed and looked at as a tool like all tools before it – for what it can do to benefit learning, but also things to watch out for as a responsible learner.
- In this Connect Live session we will be talking to a special guest about OU policies and suggestions and find out how generative AI can have a place in learning, but it certainly doesn't replace learning itself.

What are Connect Live sessions?



- Studenthublive is non modular and focuses on study skills and issues relevant to higher education.
- This means sessions are skills based and are not academic subject based.
- SHL connect live sessions discuss a topic with a guest who will share some information and this will be used as a stimulus for you to consider your own situation.
- All events are always advertised on our website along with studenthome news, social media channels and careers sources.
- All events are bookable; sessions do fill up as they are popular.

Connect Live basics



- Polls are anonymous to other participants but the chat box will have your logged in name associated with your comments during the live session.
- All online sessions are recorded and available to view on catch up through the studenthublive Adobe Connect room.
- Slides are available to download during the live session and from the event page on <https://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/content/generative-ai-ou-learning-tool-or-just-talk-5-november-2024>

SHL is lively!



- These sessions are large scale
- They are often busy with lots of interaction
- They are not the same as other module-based tutorials
- You can maximise slides on your own screen by clicking the icon
- You can return to the recording after the event to revisit if needed



Please



- Do not share any personal information in the chat pod during the session.
- On the recording names will be anonymised to user number.
- However if you type anyone's full name or any other personal information in the chat pod it can be seen by everybody and it would also show up on the recording so we may not be able to make the recording available.

Today's session



- This is going to be a semi structured Connect Live session to help you consider aspects of generative AI and where it could fit in with study
- Michel will be discussing some of the uses and there will be opportunities to consider AI within learning and ask questions
- We will not tell you what to do, nor what will definitely happen. We will suggest things based on experience and you can decide which aspects work for you.

Starting poll



How confident do you feel about using generative AI within your learning? Please choose the option most appropriate for you

- Very confident
- Quite confident
- Not very confident
- Not at all confident
- Do not see a place for generative AI in my study
- Do not really know what generative AI is

My guest today



- Michel is my guest today
- Michel is a Senior Lecturer in Computing and the OU's academic co-lead for Generative AI in learning, teaching and assessment.
- He currently teaches algorithms, data structures and computability (M269) and does research in software engineering.

Michel question 1



- Please explain what generative AI is, for those who answered they were unsure in our first poll and those of us who may be not quite certain

Question for everyone 1



- Have you seen generative AI mentioned anywhere in your module content including forums and tutorials? Please select any that apply
 - Yes my module uses AI
 - Yes my module content has highlighted the regulations
 - Yes my tutor has mentioned AI in a tutorial / forum
 - No my module has not mentioned anywhere that I have seen
 - Not quite sure

Michel question 2



- The OU has guidance about generative AI which we shared on the event page and for reference is [here](#)
- Can you tell us why the university has this guidance?

Question for everyone 2



- Do you feel confident reading university policies and guidance and understanding how they apply to you? Please add your answer and any comment in the short answer poll pod available.
- This is mainly so we know how policies are used, which helps the university ensure students are aware of what is important

Michel question 3



- In our event description we said 'generative AI can be a tool for the future or a sneaky way of getting a computer to do the legwork'. As someone involved in the university policies and knowing how generative AI works – what is your view on this and why?

Sharing an example live



- Michel will now share an example of using generative AI and talk through how it works

What would you like asked?



- Please use the poll pod available to suggest something that would be useful for Michel to ask the generative AI tool to answer.
- Please note we can't answer any TMA questions (obviously!)

What questions do you have?



- We will now move in to a free-er time where Michel and I will do our best to answer questions you may have about generative AI and how it could be used within studies.
- Please use the short answer poll pod for your questions so they are in one place.
- We can't guarantee to know all the answers but will do our best 😊

End poll



Now that you have heard about what generative AI is how confident do you feel about using generative AI within your learning? Please choose the option most appropriate for you

- Very confident
- Quite confident
- Not very confident
- Not at all confident
- Do not see a place for generative AI in my study
- Still do not really know what generative AI is

Take home message



- Generative AI can provide information from many sources.
- However you need to have a good understanding of the material in the first place to be able to use the information and judge the extent to which it is useful within your study journey

Feedback



Please complete the feedback form that is available at

<https://forms.office.com/e/VFh1E1xRUt>

This is immensely valuable to provide information on how studenthublive is beneficial to students as well as to help us plan our future programme

I (Isabella) have been sharing with people within the wider university about the benefits of studenthublive for our students' learning journey and would like to continue to do so 😊

Selected Upcoming events



- 6 Nov 11am Planning short written answers
- 12 Nov 11am Cyber security : keeping safe online
- 14 Nov 7pm Creative problem solving
- 21 Nov 11am Disabled students: building on good foundations
- 28 Nov 7pm Memory and learning
- 3 Dec 7pm Power reading
- 10 Dec 11am Keeping motivation

For more information on all past and upcoming events, go to <http://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/>