# USE OF GENERATIVE AI TO SUPPORT A RESEARCH PROJECT

Artificial Intelligence applications are evolving quickly and the Society for Science has created the table below to indicate our current guidance on when it is acceptable to use generative AI in the development and execution of a research project and how to properly cite this usage. The table below is adapted from an AHA Ad Hoc Committee on AI in History Education[1].

| Task | Could this be acceptable use? | Under what conditions? |
|---|---|---|
| Ask generative AI to identify or summarize key points in an article before you read it. Use this as a starting point for your literature review. | Yes | Acceptable without explicit citation |
| Ask AI to summarize a book or article in your field. Reproduce that summary in your literature review without reading the book or article | No | Never acceptable, as there has been no engagement with the book or source itself |
| Use an AI chatbot as a writing tool to help generate and develop ideas | Yes | Acceptable, may require explicit citation depending on circumstances. Maintain a logbook of your prompts as part of your research notebook. |
| Use generative AI to initially write the research plan, abstract, paper or poster. | No | Never acceptable. This must be the independent work of the student. Guidance or refinement after the initial document has been completed can be done with explicit citation and a log. |
| Ask generative AI to write an abstract or section of your research paper. Submit as your own work | No | Never acceptable |
| You write an abstract. Ask AI to sharpen the language but not modify, add to, or replace the main points | Yes | Acceptable use without explicit citation only if changes suggested by AI are minor and limited to grammar and syntax. Must be credited. |
| Use AI to write initial code for your project | Yes | Acceptable, only with explicit citation stating which portions of the code were AI generated and with a log of the prompts. |
| Ask generative AI to produce a flowchart, graphic, or image for a paper or presentation | Yes, with caution | Image should be clearly marked as AI-generated and with explicit citation as to how the image was created. Students should be careful to make sure AI has not incorporated copyrighted images (reverse search). |
| Write your research paper. Ask AI to add additional points to your research paper | No | Never acceptable. |
| Use AI to produce your conclusions, future steps, etc. | No | Never acceptable |
| Use AI to help identify appropriate statistical tests or software tools. (Interpretation of data must be done by the student researcher). | Yes | Acceptable, requires a log of your prompts as part of your research notebook. |
| Use AI to collect data and write research plan. Use AI to provide citations that back up your claims | No | Never acceptable |
| Ask generative AI to produce a starter bibliography | No | Never acceptable. |
| Ask generative AI to fix the structure or formatting of your bibliography | Yes | Acceptable without explicit citation. You must review and verify all citations as valid. |

[1]Adapted from: Guiding Principles for Artificial Intelligence in History Education
*Approved by AHA Council, July 29, 2025*