

International Students and AI Use

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If you suspect a student is using AI to translate a paper or write a paper, consider speaking with them to see if they can meet you during office hours. Ask them in that time to elaborate on parts of their paper. This will help you to see if they understand the course content and to make a better judgment about whether they used AI just to translate or to write the paper. If the student cannot explain concepts in the paper, then you can consider having them re-submit the paper emphasizing that they need to write it themselves, especially if this is a first offense. If you find that they continue to inappropriately utilize AI, then you can follow your typical academic misconduct procedure.

Consider teaching students how to prepare for your class: this is likely going to be helpful for all your students. But some international students come from educational cultures where the goal is to read an article and memorize it. That often is not the goal in US higher education. Explain to them how they should be reading an article and what you want them to be able to do with it.

Make projects more multimodal, when possible: we all know the value in writing, especially in certain fields and at certain educational levels. But multimodal projects can be a bit more difficult to create solely with AI. You could even have a paper component done in tandem with a non-written component. You can either weigh the paper less or make the grade on the paper contingent on their ability to express knowledge through the other medium.

Get students directly involved in discussions: cold calling may be uncomfortable. But if you find that a student isn't actively engaging, it may be helpful to call on them to let them know that you want them involved in the discussion. This can also help you see if a student is utilizing AI to summarize readings or if they have a firm understanding of the reading.

Reach out to the Intensive English Institute: they are happy to provide workshops to students about how to summarize and analyze texts, and they can provide support to you as a faculty member as you consider how to best approach language learners in your classroom.

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