

Recent research done by Awdry and Ives (2021), Javed (2019), Lang (2018), and Verhoel and Coester (2021), identified five main reasons students commit violations of academic integrity. Below are descriptions of each reason along with how ChatGPT can help address each of these issues.

1. **Not Being Fully Prepared /Fear of Failure:** ChatGPT can be used as scaffolding to directly help students prepare and overcome fear of failure by creating summaries, test reviews/preparations, as well as practice quizzes and tests. This better prepares the student through formative assessments before a bigger (higher stakes) summative assessment. ChatGPT can also serve as a study buddy in assisting-motivating with repeated practice to prepare for an evaluation. Avoiding having just one or two high-stakes (major points) tests in a course can reduce incidents of cheating on its own (Lang, 2018).
2. **Not Enough Time to Complete Assignment:** ChatGPT can also help students learn about and improve their time management skills. A prompt like “How can I improve my time management?” Yields good results, but a more specific prompt such as “I’m a college freshman. What can I specifically do to improve my time management in order to get better grades?” Will yield greater useful information. ChatGPT (depending on allowed use), can help students save time by assisting with outline creation, document review, rough draft creation, researching, organizing, and more.
3. **Not Fully Understanding the Material:** Students needing help to better understand a class, can use ChatGPT by having it present/explain info at different complexity levels and formats. ChatGPT can give many different examples, analogies, or provide stories, songs, etc., whatever the student needs.
4. **Believing that Cheating is Acceptable:** Instructors could help students understand that cheating is not acceptable by using ChatGPT as a talking point. By incorporating AI literacy and explicitly addressing ethical aspects of the issue, a greater understanding and awareness will be achieved within the class.
5. **Believing that Others are Cheating:** Instructors can again use ChatGPT as a talking point to ensure students know/understand that there will be consequences for academic dishonesty and then following through by upholding the established standards. All instructors should be very clear on how and when AI, like ChatGPT, can be used within the class (for certain assignments and tests). Instructors must be clear on the relevancy of why AI/ChatGPT is not allowed at certain times. Students need to know the importance of developing certain skills first before then integrating and working with the AI. Students need to be taught to use critical thinking skills whenever using AI.

ChatGPT is a powerful AI tool that has many uses and benefits within education, to include using it to help prevent violations of academic integrity. By learning to work with AI and not banning/avoiding it, we will continue to evolve academia and better prepare students for the realities of the current workforce.

References

Awdry, R. & Ives, B. (2021). Students cheat more often from those known to them: situation matters more than the individual. *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, 46:8, 1254–1268.

Javed, A. (2019). Predicting the underlying factors of academic dishonesty by university students; A case study. *Electronic Research Journal of Social Science and Humanities*, Vol:1 Issue 1.

Lang, J. (2018). *Cheating lessons: Learning from academic dishonesty*. Harvard University Press.

Verhoel, A. & Coester, Y. (2021). Academic integrity of university students during emergency remote online assessment: An exploration of student voices. *Transformation in Higher Education*, 6(0), a132.