



## FAQ: Is using AI a violation of SVSU's Academic Integrity Policy?

Maybe. This policy **prohibits students from using AI tools without instructor permission**—provided that the AI use qualifies as "unauthorized assistance" or "unauthorized materials" during an academic exercise.

Here's how the language applies:

- **"Using unauthorized materials or receiving unauthorized assistance"** is the core definition of cheating. If an instructor has not explicitly permitted AI tools (like ChatGPT, Grammarly, etc.) for an assignment, then using them would fall under this definition; and
- The policy also specifies **"collaborating with another student during an academic exercise without the instructor's consent"**, and AI tools are a form of "collaboration" or "assistance", especially if they help generate, edit, or structure work.

In effect, unless the instructor **specifically allows** AI use, students using it would be in violation of this policy.

## FAQ: Using AI and Academic Materials -What's Allowed and What's Not

### Key Phrase in the Academic Integrity Policy:

*"Unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials" [finish quote]*

### 1. Can I record lectures or class discussions using AI tools like smart glasses, Otter, or my phone?

**Not without your instructor's permission.**

Recording or transcribing class content even for your own use counts as possessing academic materials that may not have been released for public use. Always ask first. Using

AI-powered tools or wearables like Otter, AI pendants, or smart glasses to record or transcribe a lecture without approval is a violation of academic integrity.

## 2. Is it okay to upload assignment directions, course notes, or other documents created by my professor into ChatGPT or another AI tool to get help?

**Only if your instructor says it's okay.**

Uploading assignment prompts, paper topics, or exam questions into AI tools like ChatGPT without permission counts as unauthorized sharing or “disposition” of academic materials. These materials are part of your course and are not meant to be distributed outside it. If in doubt, ask your instructor before using AI tools.

## 3. What if I find an old exam or someone shares a paper from a past class, and I upload that document into ChatGPT or another AI?

Using or sharing old exams, papers, or assignments that **haven't been released by your instructor** is considered unauthorized possession. Even if another student gave it to you, it is still a violation of academic policy. Always check with your instructor before using outside materials.

## 4. So what should I do if I want to use an AI tool for class?

- **Read your syllabus**—most instructors include AI policies.
- **Ask the Instructor before using** tools like ChatGPT, Grammarly, Otter, or similar tools.
- **Never share course materials with AI tools** (like prompts or exams) unless you have permission, as course materials are intellectual property of the faculty.

Using AI tools can be helpful—but only when used **ethically and with permission**. When in doubt, just ask!

Do you want to learn more about AI? Contact the [Zahnow Library](#).