

LEPSL Artificial Intelligence Policy
October 2025

Artificial Intelligence (AI) presents dynamic challenges and opportunities for both academia and public safety. Developed through a collaborative effort involving the LEPSL Faculty, Students, and LEPSL Headquarters (HQ), this document formally outlines LEPSL's specific policy regarding AI use. Given the specialized nature of our Master's program and the high-level service it provides, it is important to note that this policy is more restrictive than the general USD AI guidelines.

LEPSL AI POLICY: All written work in the LEPSL program must represent the student's original ideas, analysis, and voice. Modest use of AI language tools is permitted *only* to correct errors or improve clarity in your own original writing. The substance, tone, and perspective must always remain your own.

As experienced professionals and leaders in this noble profession, LEPSL students are expected to model the highest standards of integrity and ethical judgment. The responsible use of emerging tools like AI is part of that leadership. We're navigating this evolving space together, but originality, authenticity, and critical thinking are central to the success of this program and our desire is to see this approach across all assignments, discussion board posts, and any other work in the program.

LEPSL AI POLICY RATIONALE:

LEPSL encourages you to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a limited supplementary tool, but within appropriate ethical boundaries and within the guardrails prescribed in the LEPSL AI POLICY.

First and foremost, the goal of LEPSL is to support students in advancing their skill set and career trajectory. These goals require practice. Doing ethical and original work in the LEPSL program provides just the practice that is necessary to sharpen skills that are central to the promotional process, and to develop a broad and impactful skill set. Overuse of AI robs the student of that growth potential.

AI can be a tool to polish your writing and programs like Grammarly are recommended and utilized by many LEPSL faculty. However, when using AI polishing tools, make sure to be aware of style and tone. Overuse of AI polishing can make the style, tone, and cadence of

the writing sound robotic. Moreover, it can leave the writing feeling inconsistent for the reader, which hurts the quality of the piece. So, be cautious and strategic when using AI to polish your writing.

Generative AI (using AI to create original content) has limitations that are problematic. Many popular AI products are not up to date and lag months, or sometimes years behind. So using AI to address cutting-edge law enforcement topics is not always effective. Moreover, a lot of the source information may be unreliable or not exist. And generative AI obviously cannot duplicate or substitute for the professional experience and insight of LEPSL students.

LEPSL encourages you to use AI sparingly, and with skepticism, if at all. Faculty do have access to AI detectors, including Grammarly's detector, that can help inform discussion and grading related to style, tone and content of written work. But more broadly we want students to get as much as possible out of the program, which necessitates doing your own original work, and leveraging these supplementary tools appropriately.