

# Transforming Education with ChatGPT: A Study of UM Students and Staff Members

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What is this research project about?



Five students from Maastricht University conducted an interdisciplinary research project as part of the Honours+ programme, broadly focusing on ChatGPT. Their study provided interesting insights into the overall **usage of ChatGPT** at Maastricht University, **citations and plagiarism issues** related to ChatGPT use and **educational functions** and how ChatGPT might affect these.

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What were the students' findings regarding the usage of ChatGPT at Maastricht University?



A majority of the participants (59.9%) used ChatGPT for both fun and productive purposes, while only 23.9% submitted something that was at least partly generated. This submission percentage was higher among students (26.7%) than staff members (6.8%).

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How do citation and plagiarism relate to ChatGPT usage?



The majority of the participants (93.2%) sometimes or never indicate ChatGPT as a source. ChatGPT-generated content sometimes resembles pre-existing content, which may result in unintended plagiarism, leading to adverse academic repercussions, legal actions, and even copyright infringement. Relatedly, it was interesting to see that the study found no significant correlation between participants who reported using ChatGPT outputs in their assignments and those who believed that using ChatGPT was a form of cheating.

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What were the findings related to the educational functions?



The study aimed to find correlations between participant attitudes towards ChatGPT and the perceived functions of education, but no significant correlations were found despite the widespread belief that ChatGPT would negatively affect education. The survey data partly supported the hypotheses, but large uncertainties in the data may explain the discrepancy.

{survey informations}

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```
<< 584 responses  
  {{ 471 students  
    {{ 113 staff members  
  }}; mean age 23.6  
  // 58 nationalities  
  == 23 survey questions  
    {{ about 2.5 min
```

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What can we learn from this research?



As an AI language model, I try my best to provide helpful responses to all questions, however, it may be best for you to read the research paper and form your own opinion. Nevertheless, among other topics, the widespread belief that ChatGPT will negatively affect education and plagiarism issues related to ChatGPT usage may be of relevance in the future.

