



January 30, 2026

Dear Members of ASCC,

I am writing to share an informational update regarding the thesis application process for Arts and Sciences students pursuing Research Distinction or Honors Research Distinction.

Last semester, an ad hoc subcommittee of the ASC Honors Committee, comprised of faculty from the natural and mathematical sciences, social and behavioral sciences, and arts and humanities, as well as the thesis coordinators for Research Distinction and Honors Research Distinction, developed an AI Thesis Disclosure Statement to be incorporated into all thesis applications.

This subcommittee was convened in response to faculty reports of students using AI tools in their thesis work without proactively discussing or disclosing this usage to their thesis advisors.

The committee concluded that decisions about whether AI use is appropriate should rest with thesis advisors, given their disciplinary expertise and their existing role in evaluating the thesis and defense. This approach also aligns with the flexibility currently afforded to course instructors. Our hope is that the disclosure statement will prompt early and transparent conversations between students and their advisors. Including this statement in the application will ensure it is addressed at the outset and acknowledged by both parties.

Attached is the AI Thesis Disclosure Statement, which will be embedded in the thesis application after it is shared with faculty across the college. It will appear directly beneath the academic integrity statement and above the signature section.

Thank you,

Lindsey Chamberlain

Lindsey Chamberlain
Assistant Dean, Academic Enrichment
Director, Arts and Sciences Honors Program

[Plagiarism\(opens in new window\)](#) and unapproved use of GenAI tools for work on the thesis may be considered a violation of Ohio State's [Academic Integrity\(opens in new window\)](#) policy and [Code of Student Conduct\(opens in new window\)](#) and will result in referral to the [Committee on Academic Misconduct\(opens in new window\)](#).

AI Disclosure Statement

Given that the main objective of the thesis is the creation of original scholarly work:

- The use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools, including spelling and grammar tools, is **not permitted except as approved by your primary project advisor**. The use of writing aids embedded in standard word processing programs is permitted.
- **Any usage of AI must be cited per the norms of your discipline in the final thesis document**. Please defer to your primary project advisor for discipline-specific norms.
- Only [university-approved \(opens in a new window\)](#) AI tools may be used.

Please indicate below whether you plan to use GenAI to complete any part of your thesis (including outlining, graphics, data collection/analysis). If you plan to use AI, please discuss this usage with your project advisor and describe it below.

- **I will use university-approved AI tools for my thesis. I have discussed this usage with my advisor and will cite my usage in my final thesis document.**
Specify the GenAI applications or tools and the purpose for which each will be used:

- **I will not use AI tools for my thesis**

Candidates may amend this statement at any time prior to the defense by contacting their assigned Thesis Coordinator.

******This will be embedded in the thesis application right before the signature page******