Citing Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) Tools

Metro State Writing Center, Fall 2023

**Can I Use a GAI Tool?**

At Metro, using these tools is at the discretion of instructors. Always make certain you are permitted to employ a GAI tool for coursework.

**Why Do I Need to Cite GAI?**

Academic integrity requires that all work submitted for assessment be your own. So, if you use GAI to assist in composing an assignment, you may not simply submit its raw output as your own work because it was not created by you. There is currently consensus that while a GAI such as ChatGpT or Dall.E is not an author, the use of AI in creating human work should be disclosed because its output can seem original. The major citation styles have all developed formats to do so ethically. These formats may change as the capabilities and prevalence of AI tools evolve.

**What Is the Best Way to Access GAI Tools?**

A note on privacy and security: you may not want to use your Metro State email address to register with a GAI. Instead, create a new email address that you use only for AI accounts. There are concerns with GAI tools storing and incorporating user interactions into their learning.

# **Links and Examples**

## **APA**

The GAI output is considered unretrievable and so is treated like a personal communication.

* [How to Cite ChatGPT in APA](https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt?mibextid=5zvaxg&fbclid=IwAR1S4B8xNUhM_5_hwrMgHnmuCyIzqoH8PEODz8svrrucoQaJW5fM7oqMX9Y)

**In Text Citation**

When prompted with “Is the left brain right brain divide real or a metaphor?” the ChatGPT-generated text indicated that although the two brain hemispheres are somewhat specialized, “the notation that people can be characterized as ‘left-brained’ or ‘right-brained’ is considered to be an oversimplification and a popular myth” (OpenAI, 2023).

**References List**

OpenAI. (2023). ChatGPT (Mar 14 version) [Large language model]. https://chat.openai.com/chat

## **Chicago Style**

CSE and ASA both also follow Chicago format on citing GAI.

* [FAQ Item: Citation, Documentation of Sources](https://www-chicagomanualofstyle-org.mtrproxy.mnpals.net/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html) (requires STAR ID login)

**Chicago Notes & Bibliography Style Example**

**In Text Citation**

The following recipe for pizza dough was generated by ChatGPT.1

**Foot Note or End Note Example**

1. Text generated by ChatGPT, OpenAI, March 7, 2023, https://chat.openai.com/chat, edited for style and content.

**Chicago Author-Date Style Example**

**In Text Citation**

Pizza dough can be made from the following common household ingredients (ChatGPT, March 7, 2023).

**References List**

“Do not cite ChatGPT in a bibliography or reference list unless you provide a publicly available link (e.g., via a browser extension like ShareGPT or A.I. Archives). Though OpenAI assigns unique URLs to conversations generated from your prompts, those can’t be used by others to access the same content (they require your login credentials), making a ChatGPT conversation like an email, phone, or text conversation—or any other type of personal communication (see *Chicago Manual of Style* sections 14.214 and 15.53).”

## **MLA**

Cite any content created by a GAI tool that is incorporated and state any functional uses of it such as researching, editing or translating in a note.

* [How do I cite generative AI in MLA Style?](https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/)

**In Text Citation**

While the green light in The Great Gatsby might be said to chiefly symbolize four main things: optimism, the unattainability of the American dream, greed, and covetousness (“Describe the symbolism”), arguably the most important—the one that ties all four themes together—is greed.

**Works Cited List**

“Describe the symbolism of the green light in the book The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald” prompt. ChatGPT, 13 Feb. version, OpenAI, 8 Mar. 2023, chat.openai.com/chat.

# **Useful Links for Further Guidance on Citing GAI Tools**

* Normandale Community College Resource: [AI Avenue](https://it.normandale.edu/TDClient/1870/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=150052)
* Macalester College Library Resource: [AI Literacy and Critical Thinking](https://libguides.macalester.edu/c.php?g=1329270&p=9819346)
* MLA-CCCC Joint Task Force on Writing and AI: [Quick Start Guide to AI and Writing](https://aiandwriting.hcommons.org/resources/)

This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the Center for Accessibility Resources, [accessibility.resources@metrostate.edu](mailto:accessibility.resources@metrostate.edu) or 651.793.1549.