

The Department of English | Secondary Education Statement on Plagiarism, AI and Ghost Writing

The Department of English | Secondary Education (short for all teachers in the BEd/MEd programme English secondary education in Linz) pursues a zero-tolerance policy with regard to plagiarism. Regulations follow the guidelines laid down in the Hochschulgesetz (HG) and Universitätsgesetz (UG):

Ein Plagiat liegt jedenfalls dann vor, wenn Texte, Inhalte oder Ideen übernommen und als eigene ausgegeben werden. Dies umfasst insbesondere die Aneignung und Verwendung von Textpassagen, Theorien, Hypothesen, Erkenntnissen oder Daten durch direkte, paraphrasierte oder übersetzte Übernahme ohne entsprechende Kenntlichmachung und Zitierung der Quelle und der Urheberin oder des Urhebers.¹

By enrolling in a Proseminar (PS) or Seminar (SE) at the Department of English | Secondary Education, a student therefore confirms that

- i. they have read and understood the departmental policy on plagiarism.
- ii. all their assignments for this course are their own work, except for quotations from published and unpublished sources that are clearly indicated and acknowledged as such, including from AI (see vi. below).
- iii. the source of any figure, graph, table, picture, map, or other illustration is also indicated and referenced.
- iv. assignments are neither copied from any other person's work (published or unpublished) and have not previously been submitted for assessment, including by themselves in another course without explicit permission from the teacher.
- v. they did not use a ghostwriting service, defined as:
Wer entgeltlich oder unentgeltlich ein Werk für eine andere Person herstellt oder einer anderen Person zur Verfügung stellt, [...], wenn sie oder er weiß oder nach den Umständen annehmen kann, dass dieses Werk in der Folge teilweise oder zur Gänze als Seminar-, Prüfungs-, oder Abschlussarbeit (Bachelorarbeit, wissenschaftliche oder künstlerische Arbeit) zum Nachweis nicht erbrachter eigenständiger Leistungen verwendet.²
- vi. they openly acknowledge, cite and reference any use of AI tools or technologies, eg. DeepL, DeepLWrite, Google Bard, ChatGPT, Bing, Perplexity.³

The incorporation of material from other works without sufficient acknowledgement will be treated as plagiarism according to the institutions' regulations. In the case of suspected plagiarism, students will be required to discuss their work in an oral board exam consisting of two staff members of the English Department and, if the student wishes, a member of the ÖH. For further procedure, see "Satzungen" of the respective institutions (PHDL, PHÖÖ, JKU).

In addition to this "Statement on Plagiarism, AI and Ghost Writing", students in Bachelor Seminars must also include a "Declaration of Authenticity", which is available on the Department of English homepage: <https://ph-ooe.at/ph-ooe/fachbereiche/sprachliche-bildung/wwwph-ooeatanglistik/departament-of-english/downloads>.

With my signature, I confirm I have read the above regulations and agree to abide by them:

Name and date: _____

¹ See [Allgemeine Fragen und Antworten im Überblick \(bmbwf.gv.at\)](https://www.bmbwf.gv.at)

² See [Allgemeine Fragen und Antworten im Überblick \(bmbwf.gv.at\)](https://www.bmbwf.gv.at)

³ [Acknowledging use of AI tools and technologies \(unimelb.edu.au\)](https://www.unimelb.edu.au)