

POLICY on Plagiarism
at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration
of the University of Szeged

Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all written work, presentations, publications (e.g. related to courses, academic competitions) prepared by the students of any of the training programmes in any type of education programmes at the Faculty. It shall also be applied to all written and/or oral work prepared during the courses announced by the Faculty regardless which Faculty of the University of Szeged the member of the course belongs to. The Policy shall not be extended to students studying in the Doctoral School at the Faculty.

1. What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is committed in all instances when a work or idea from someone else is indicated as ours regardless if it has happened with consent or without consent.

The written or oral use of any content of another author's work **without providing appropriate reference to its source** (regardless of the language of the content) shall be deemed as plagiarism. Such contents originating from another author may include

- a word or a concept that is handwritten, downloaded from the internet, electronic, oral, stored in any kind of data recorder or originates from another source;
- an idea, a conclusion, a finding, an opinion, an inference or an observation;
- a formula or a model;
- a data, a series of numbers or data, statistics or a solution;
- a figure, a graphic art, a picture or a photograph.

If **another author's work** is demonstrated as one's own piece of work, it shall also be deemed as plagiarism. (E.g. copying entire papers or other work, or any written or oral material prepared in return for consideration.)

The author of the original work does not have to be credited only if the author is **unknown**, however, this fact must be appropriately referenced.

It is not necessary to add reference to (1) widely-known thoughts (which are available in credible source); (2) generally accepted and observed facts; (3) original, new thoughts and own experience and ideas.

Plagiarism can happen:

- **intentionally**: the offender of plagiarism was aware that he/she breaks the order of plagiarism;
- **recklessly**: the committer of plagiarism might have seen or could have been expected from him/ her to see that his/her work might breach the rules on plagiarism, however he/ she did not make any steps to avoid plagiarism
- **unintentionally**: the lack of information on plagiarism, the inaccurate/insufficient practice applied during the work have resulted in plagiarism.

In the evaluation of academic work, plagiarism must be taken into account, regardless of whether it is intentional or not. Both intentional and reckless plagiarism are considered disciplinary offenses.

If a word for word quoting of another author's work is referenced appropriately, but no quotation marks are inserted, or is not referenced appropriately, but quotation marks are inserted, then this shall not be deemed as plagiarism but as **a referencing anomaly**.

During the preparation of her/his individual work, the student may use other author's contents; however, each piece of content shall be referenced appropriately. If a student does not follow the formal requirements of the appropriate referencing required by the field of science, it shall be deemed only as an error of formal nature which shall be taken into account in the grading of the piece of work, but such an act shall not be deemed as plagiarism.

2. Faculty Policy on Plagiarism

The policy on plagiarism shall apply to **all pieces of work submitted** in order to fulfil the academic requirements, and to all written or oral pieces of work submitted for other purposes, for example, scholarship applications or a scientific student circle course. In particular:

- homework, home assignment;
- seminar paper;
- thesis work;
- project paper;
- research report, scientific research paper;
- scholarship application;
- oral presentation, in-class short presentation, in-class assignment.

3. What are the consequences of plagiarism?

Plagiarism committed intentionally or recklessly is a disciplinary offence which may entail a **disciplinary action** initiated against the student apart from a **failing grade** of the piece of work in accordance with the Student Disciplinary Actions and Penalties Policy of the University of Szeged.

Plagiarism is committed if the action done is in line with Section 12 (1) and (2) of Act No. LXXVI of 1999 on copyright; and Section 329/A (1) of Act No. IV of 1978 on the Criminal Code, which may be punishable by imprisonment of up to two years.

The case of an alleged instance of plagiarism shall be reported by the teacher responsible for the course, or by the student's thesis supervisor or by the opponent of the student's thesis paper to the respective Head of Institute that offers the course or thesis topic, or receives scientific student circle papers. If plagiarism is found, the failing grade shall be recorded. The Head of the Institute, together with the Dean of the Faculty, may initiate a disciplinary action against the student who committed plagiarism.

Pursuant to this Policy, each student preparing a thesis paper/thesis work shall submit the **Statement** under Annex 1, by which, the student states that the thesis paper/thesis work is her/his own intellectual property and that s/he met the appropriate referencing and quoting requirements for each and every source used.

4. Faculty Procedure for Dealing with Plagiarism

The procedure of proving an alleged instance of intentional or reckless plagiarism shall be conducted by the teacher responsible for the seminar course or the examination, by the supervisor or the opponent of a thesis work, or by the Final Examination Board.

The **notification of the student** about an alleged instance of plagiarism shall be sent by the teacher or by the Student Office via an e-mail to the address the student registered in the ETR.

If the student concerned rejects the findings of an alleged instance of plagiarism, s/he may **claim remedy** and submit a request addressed to the Head of the Institute offering the course or thesis topic in case of a thesis paper/thesis work up to the date of the Final Examination, at the latest, or, in case of other types of work, 15 days after receipt of the notification. The Head of the Institute may appoint **an ad hoc committee of three members** to decide. If the Head of the Institute is concerned in the disciplinary action, the respective superior organizational unit shall be entitled to appoint a committee. The ad hoc committee shall make a decision within 15 days.

The student may file an appeal in writing to the Vice Dean for Education, who, as a second instance decision maker, shall decide within eight days. The second instance decision is final unless a disciplinary action is initiated by the Dean against a student who committed plagiarism in a thesis paper/thesis work, or a repeated course paper.

A **graduating student**, against whom a plagiarism or disciplinary action is initiated, may not take her/his final examination until the end of the procedure. If the procedure cannot find proof of plagiarism, the Vice Dean for Education shall give permission to set an unscheduled date for the final examination.

The thesis paper in its submitted form shall be deemed as its author's – the student's – intellectual property, therefore, its further use falls under the stipulations of Act No. LXXVI of 1999 on copyright. In the event the student finds misuse of her/his thesis paper/thesis work or other intellectual property (written work, statistical data, figure etc.), as her/his own work of intellectual property, s/he may turn to the Dean.

5. Using artificial intelligence¹

This chapter applies to materials (presentations, publications, assignments, etc.) prepared in connection with academic studies (courses, competitions) at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Szeged and submitted after 1 September 2025. The use of artificial intelligence (hereinafter referred to as AI) is permitted for the preparation of these intellectual works, but only in accordance with the principles set out below.

The following activities are allowed when working with AI tools:

- Language check and stylistic correction.
- A brief summary of source material and an organisation of ideas.
- Presentation and analysis of the capabilities of AI tools in written materials. In this case, the rules of verbatim citation should be used, where the question asked (prompt) and the answer given should be documented, if necessary - if this has a significant impact on the size and content of the body text - in an annex.

¹ The chapter is effective from 1 September 2025.

Students can use AI tools as a support tool for learning and professional development. It is important to:

- AI cannot replace independent thinking and critical analysis.
- Any reference to sources suggested or generated by the AI should be carefully checked. Only sources that the student has actually read and understood should be included in the literature used.
- The student is responsible for the content of the submitted material, including the accuracy and authenticity of the content created by the AI.

The fact and method of using AI must be clearly documented:

- AI-generated professional content should not be listed as your own and should always be properly referenced.
- The text produced using the AI must comply with the plagiarism rules.
- The methodological section of the thesis should indicate the purpose for which the AI has been used and a statement of how the AI has been used should be completed as an annex to the thesis. Example: *'In the course of writing this thesis, I used the ChatGPT tool to organise and linguistically check the literature sources. I have revised the content generated by the AI and added my own analysis. For a detailed list of the chapters concerned, see my declaration in Annex X.'*
- In case the course lecturer, the supervisor or opponent suspect irregular use of AI, the Faculty may check the paper using the software tools at its disposal.

Violation of these principles is treated in the same way as the offence of *using passages without citation (plagiarism)*.

Following these rules will ensure that AI can be a useful tool in thesis writing, while preserving the authenticity and uniqueness of the academic work.

Chapter 1-4 of this Policy with its annex (Annex 1) were accepted as Resolution 28/2012 by the Faculty Council on its meeting of 27 September 2012 and was amended by the Faculty Council on its meeting on 14 April 2022. This Policy shall come into effect with its official publication on Coospace on 14 April 2022.

Chapter 5 of this Policy with its annex (Annex 2) were accepted as Resolution 24/2025 by the Faculty Council on its meeting of 22 May 2025. This Policy shall come into effect on 1 September 2025.

Szeged, 22 May 2025

Annex 1

Title of the Thesis Work/Thesis Paper:.....
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STATEMENT

I, the undersigned (Neptun Code:.....) student in the full-time/correspondence/distance education programme (please underline as appropriate) at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Szeged, having submitted the annexed thesis paper, hereby declare that

- the thesis paper/thesis work entitled above is my own work based on my own research;
- all ideas and quotes from other authors have been appropriately credited as is worthy of a scientific paper, with particular respect to references and quotes;
- the thesis paper was not submitted to any other faculties of the University of Szeged or other institutions;
- the thesis paper was prepared with due consideration of Act No. LXXVI of 1999 on Copyright and the effective rules and regulations of the University of Szeged on the writing of the thesis paper;
- I hereby agree to have my thesis paper checked for plagiarism with an electronic plagiarism test;
- I hereby acknowledge that if an alleged instance of plagiarism is detected and found, the paper shall receive a failing grade and a disciplinary action may be initiated against me;
- the initiation of a disciplinary action does not cover other (civil law, misdemeanour law, criminal law) sanctions;
- I hereby declare that during the preparatory phase I did not deceive or mislead my consultant or the teacher assigning me with the task in terms of individual preparation of the thesis paper/thesis work;

Date:

.....
Signature

Title of the thesis:

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STATEMENT ON THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

I, the undersigned (Neptun code:), a student of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Szeged, majoring in programme /submitting the attached thesis/ declare that I have used artificial intelligence-based tools in the following ways:

1. Applied AI tools and their purpose

- *Tool name (For example: ChatGPT, Grammarly, QuillBot, Connected Papers)*
- *Purpose of use: (For example: language check, text extraction, idea generation, source searching, etc.)*

2. Details of the use of AI

- *I have used AI in the following chapters or content units:*
 - *For example: introduction - improving text structure*
 - *For example: literature review - support for resource search*
 - *For example: conclusions - language check*
- *I have given the following relevant questions or prompts (main prompts) to the AI tool(s) used. Please indicate the main prompts that resulted in a substantive change to the content or structure of the thesis. (If there were significant clarifications in more than one step of a request, please also briefly indicate this.) For example:*
 - *First main prompt: "Summarise endogenous growth theory in 300 words."*
 - *Modified main prompt: "Summarize endogenous growth theory and highlight the role of Paul Romer in the model."*

3. Managing AI-generated content

For example:

- *I have checked the text generated by the AI, revised it and added my own analyses.*
- *In all cases, I checked the sources suggested by the AI manually.*

4. Liability

- I declare that I accept responsibility for the entire content of this thesis.
- The content generated by the AI has been incorporated into the paper only in a controlled form, with my own interpretation and additions.
- I acknowledge that the use of AI tools does not exempt me from complying with the plagiarism policy and university ethics.
- I consent to my thesis being subject to electronic AI examination.

I also acknowledge that if my thesis is suspected and proven to be plagiaristic due to inappropriate use of the AI, it will receive a failed mark and may be subject to disciplinary action, without prejudice to any other legal consequences (civil, criminal, misdemeanour) for copyright infringement.

Date:

.....
signature