

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL

College of Agriculture, Engineering & Science

INFORMED CONSENT AND DELARATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Dear Participant,

My name is Dr Dhanwanthie Haricharan and I am the Teaching & Learning Coordinator in the College of Agriculture, Engineering & Science (CAES). I am conducting a study on the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) tools, such as, ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Claude.

This research aims to investigate how students in CAES currently engage with GenAI tools, the nature and extent of their use, and the varying levels of skill in using these technologies. I seek to gain insights that can inform the development of appropriate support interventions to help students use GenAI tools effectively, while encouraging critical thinking and academic integrity.

Should you choose to participate, please note the following:

- Participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time without any negative consequences.
- All survey and interview responses will be treated with strict confidentiality and will be used solely for the purposes of this research.
- Your identity will be anonymised through a coding system during data analysis.
- All collected data will be securely stored and destroyed once it is no longer required.
- There is no payment for participation in this study

If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to contact me at haricharand@ukzn.ac.za

Please indicate your informed consent to participate in this study by writing your name and signing below.

Declaration:

I _____ have been informed about the study entitled “*Investigating student use of GenAI in Science education: Impacts of prompting skills on learning outcomes*”, and understand participation in this study is entirely voluntary and that I may withdraw at any time without negative repercussions.

Signature of Participant

Date