

### Graduate School, Khon Kaen University Announcement (No. 173/2025)

# On Thesis and Independent Study Format, Edition 3 (Prevention of Plagiarism and the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Thesis or Independent Study)

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To ensure that the theses and independent studies conduct of Khon Kaen University's graduate students attain quality, standard, and reliability as well as to promote ethical research practices among graduate students and, to prevent the unauthorized replication of other's work without proper citation, including the use of improper methods to claim other's work as one's own, as well as to promote the appropriate and ethical use of artificial intelligence in for theses or independent studies. By the virtue of Section 40 of Khon Kaen University Act B.E. 2558 and the Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Education Level, B.E. 2566 Article 55.1 and Article 55.2. Adhere to the resolution of Committee Board of Graduate School Meeting at the 8/2025 on August 5, 2025, has therefore issued the announcement as follows:

Clause 1 This announcement shall be called "Graduate School, Khon Kaen University Announcement (No. 173/2025) on Thesis and Independent Study Format, Edition 3 (Prevention of Plagiarism and the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Thesis or Independent Study)"

Clause 2 This announcement is effective from the issued date onwards.

Clause 3 The previous Graduate School, Khon Kaen University Announcement (No. 164/2023) on Thesis and Independent Study Format, Edition 2 (Prevention of Plagiarism and the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Thesis or Independent Study) is no longer applied.

Clause 4 The process of thesis/independent study proposal approval, the students must submit the Turnitin Originality Report or a similarity index report from another higher quality program accepted by the Graduate School to the thesis/independent study major advisor together with the thesis proposal or the independent study report and GS23 Form. for consideration and approval.

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Clause 5 In the process of requesting for a thesis/independent study defense, students must submit the Turnitin Originality Report or a similarity index report from another higher-quality program which is accepted by the Graduate School to the thesis/independent study major advisor together with the thesis/independent study manuscript and GS25 Form for consideration and approval at least 20 days prior to the defense date.

Clause 6 The thesis/Independent study major advisor reports consideration's results of Similarity Index in the Turnitin Originality Report. Students must submit the Turnitin Originality Report or a similarity index report from another higher-quality program accepted by the Graduate School together with the complete thesis/independent study. The Similarity index for doctoral level must not exceed 20% and for the master's level must not exceed 30%. The Similarity Index does not include text that overlaps with the published works derived from the same thesis or independent study by the student. Additionally, references are not included in the calculation.

If the Similarity index exceeds the specified limit mentioned above, the thesis or independent study advisor must explain the reason to the Graduate School for consideration. The Graduate School may also notify the student to revise the overlapping parts in case the Similarity Index exceeds 5%.

**Clause 7** Guidelines for using artificial intelligence in writing the content of a thesis or independent study are as follows:

7.1 Since Artificial Intelligence (AI) is merely a supporting tool for thesis or independent study, the user is responsible for the accuracy of the information and the work produced. If AI is utilized in supporting the preparation of a thesis or independent study, the student must specify the type and content of the AI usage within the thesis or independent study report. This must be indicated in the preliminary section of the thesis or independent study report under the heading: "Statement on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Supporting the Preparation of the Thesis or Independent Study."

7.2 Students must exercise discretion in determining the scope of Artificial Intelligence (AI) usage for generating content in a thesis or independent study. Such usage must not undermine the learning outcomes that students are required to demonstrate independently, nor the objectives of the research. If AI is used, the scope of its application

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must be explicitly stated. Failure to disclose the use of AI shall be regarded as a violation of academic ethics and may be subject to penalties in accordance with relevant regulations.

7.3 In case the use of artificial intelligence in the thesis/independent study writing process is under consideration regarding its impact on essential contents, students' knowledge, or skills, this matter will be subject to the discretion of the Graduate School's Committee and the decision of the Graduate School's Committee is final.

Clause 8 The Dean of the Graduate School shall be in charge of this announcement. In case the principles or guidelines are not defined, or if any dispute arises from this announcement, the Dean of the Graduate School has the final authority regarding arbitration, and his/her decision is final.

Announced on August 20, 2025

Signed
(Professor Kiatichai Faksri)
Dean of Graduate School

## The attachment of Graduate School, Khon Kaen University Announcement (No. 173/2025)

Guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence in supporting the preparation of a thesis or independent Study, including content appearing in publications That May constitute part of the thesis or independent study:

- 1) Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to computer processing systems, robots, machines, or other electronic devices capable of performing in-depth data analysis in a manner resembling human intelligence, and of autonomously generating outcomes in the form of actions or works.
- 2) Scope of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use in Supporting the Preparation of a Thesis or Independent Study

#### Level 1: Low-risk - Acceptable Use:

Permissible without prior approval, but the usage must be disclosed in the "Statement on the Use of Artificial Intelligence"

- 1. Proofreading and correction of English grammar and spelling.
- 2. Rephrasing sentences or words to improve readability (without altering the core content).
- 3. Translation for the purpose of comprehension or cross-language communication.

#### Level 2: Moderate-risk - Conditional Use:

Permissible, but must be explicitly disclosed in the thesis and conducted under the supervision of the advisor.

- 1. Generating an outline based on content already prepared by the student.
- 2. Summarizing research content that the student has independently studied.
- 3. Refining expressions to improve clarity of content originally written by the student.
- 4. Using Al outputs that have been analyzed, verified, or reviewed by the student and the advisor, in cases such as:
  - Writing a literature review
  - Designing experiments or proposing new research concepts.
  - Analyzing data, drawing conclusions, and discussing results.

#### Level 3: High-Risk - Prohibited Use:

Strictly prohibited, as it constitutes a violation of academic ethics.

- 1. Generating entirely new content (de novo content) for any part of the thesis or independent study, in place of student-authored writing.
- 3) Scope of AI use that affects the core content of the thesis or independent study and violates regulation 7.2 this includes any use of AI at level 3.
  - 4) Examples of Declaring AI Usage in a Thesis or Independent Study

## Declaration regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in supporting the preparation of the thesis/independent study

During the preparation of this thesis/independent study, the author used [type or name of AI] to [...........]. Following the use of AI, the author reviewed and revised the content as necessary and accepts full responsibility for the final content of the thesis/independent study.