

A STUDY ON THE USE OF CHATGPT AMONG THE STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYAWARDENEPURA

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Artificial intelligence has made significant progress in recent years revolutionising various sectors. Although ChatGPT is a recent development, it has created an unprecedented transformational change in the education sector. Today, research has found that university students in various countries use ChatGPT in addition to traditional learning activities for university studies. Accordingly, the purpose of the research was to study whether there is a prevalence and trend in the use of ChatGPT among undergraduates at the University of Sri Jayawardenepura, the largest university in Sri Lanka in terms of student population. The research was conducted using a mixed methodology based on qualitative and quantitative research methods. A 10% sample (1385) was selected under the proportional resolution from 13758 students engaged in academic activities in eight faculties from the first to the fourth year of the university under the stratified sampling method. The questionnaire method was mainly used to collect data. In addition, qualitative data was collected by conducting interviews on various profiles to study the use of ChatGPT by students, and its trends. SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Science) was used for data analysis. According to the research findings, 58% of students use ChatGPT. It was revealed that the majority of ChatGPT users are students of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. Its percentage is 47.55%. According to gender, male students use ChatGPT the most. Its percentage is 56.6%. This is because boys are less interested in searching for information using different sources than girls. The interviews revealed that most male students believed that getting information using ChatGPT was easier than searching for information using various sources. A majority of 43.41% of students using ChatGPT use it to get information for university assignments and activities. Also, 37.86% of students stated that the main benefit of ChatGPT is that they can get information efficiently for their studies through this medium. Interestingly, 59.23% of students who use ChatGPT expressed that the main challenge is the inadequacy of information. The research findings confirmed that 55.19% of students who do not use ChatGPT do not use ChatGPT because it is an academic fraud. In conclusion, the research concludes that ChatGPT has gained considerable popularity among undergraduate students at the University of Sri Jayawardenepura.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, ChatGPT, Higher education, University of Sri Jayawardenepura