



Department of Psychology
The University of Hong Kong
香港大學心理學系

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Departmental Seminar

Psychology Undergraduate Writing in the AI era



Dr Matthew Mak

Assistant Professor and Admissions Tutor
Department of Psychology
University of Warwick

11:00a.m. – 12:00n.n.

Room 715, 7/F

The Jockey Club Tower

Centennial Campus

The University of Hong Kong

Abstract

The emergence of AI-powered chatbots such as ChatGPT has prompted widespread debate regarding their impact on student learning and academic integrity. To examine how these tools may be reshaping academic practices, we analysed 5000+ empirical reports submitted by over 2000 psychology undergraduates at the University of Warwick between 2016 and 2026. Our investigation assessed changes in (a) the prevalence of stylistic markers, (b) linguistic style, (c) sentiment, (d) perceived quality, and (e) content similarity following the release of ChatGPT in November 2022. Although we observed clear shifts across some of these dimensions, no students reported the use of AI in their work. These findings highlight the pressing need for universities to revisit existing academic integrity frameworks and develop transparent, pedagogically grounded strategies for responding to the growing presence of generative AI in higher education.

About the Speaker

Dr Matthew Mak is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Warwick University. He received his DPhil in Experimental Psychology from Oxford (2021) and his MPhil in Applied Linguistics from Cambridge (2017), and his BA in Linguistics from HKU (2016). His past work focuses on the interface between language and declarative memory. More recently, he has been examining how technologies like AI are influencing human language and memory.

Zoom Meeting (For participants who couldn't attend the Seminar in person)

<https://hku.zoom.us/j/94932883400?pwd=WCGcL1NanSB1CkhJOcX8MP65KSJhco.1>

Meeting ID: 949 3288 3400 Password: 296052

~ All are Welcome ~

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