



Research Participant Information Sheet

GenAI for Computing Education in the Netherlands

Dr. Hieke Keuning, Dr. Isaac Alpizar-Chacon, Dr. Ioanna Lykourantzou,

Dr. Sergey Sosnovsky & Imke de Jong, Msc.

Utrecht University

February 2025

1. Introduction

This information letter provides background information for a study on the use and perception of GenAI in programming courses. It should help you decide if you would like to participate in the study. If you have any questions after reading this letter, do not hesitate to ask. You can find contact information of the researchers in Sections 3 and 10.

2. What is the background and purpose of this study?

In this study, we investigate how students in the Netherlands, across different educational levels (high school and university), use GenAI tools in programming courses and how their perceptions evolve over time.

3. Who will carry out the study?

Five researchers from the Department of Information and Computing Sciences at Utrecht University carry out this study:

- Dr. Hieke Keuning (h.w.keuning@uu.nl), assistant professor.
- Dr. Isaac Alpizar-Chacon (i.alpizarchacon@uu.nl), assistant professor.
- Dr. Ioanna Lykourantzou (i.lykourantzou@uu.nl), associate professor
- Dr. Sergey Sosnovsky (s.a.sosnovsky@uu.nl), associate professor
- Imke de Jong, MSc (i.dejong1@uu.nl), junior assistant professor.

This study is funded by Utrecht University.

4. How will the study be carried out?

In this study, you are asked to complete a survey about how you perceive and use generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Bard, and Copilot) in programming education.

The survey will take around 10/15 minutes to complete. As we want to examine the changes in use and perceptions over time, we will conduct the survey again at the end of the current academic year. You will be invited again to participate in the study. To be able to link the aggregated responses of the three surveys together, we will ask you to fill out a personal code based on your birthday, the number of your birth month, and your house number. We will not be able to track your identity based on this code.

5. What data will we collect?

We will collect demographic data, previous programming experience, and usage patterns and perceptions around GenAI tools for programming tasks.



6. What will we do with your data?

The data you provide will be stored on a secure university server only accessible to the researchers involved in the project. The data will be anonymized, meaning you will not be directly identifiable.

The anonymized data will be stored in a data repository for a minimum of 10 years, for use or referral by other researchers and research users. Any publications based on this research, and the data repository, will not include your name or any other personal information by which you could be identified.

7. What are the possible risks and benefits?

There are no foreseeable risks involved in participating in this study. Potential benefits include contributing to improving the body of knowledge about how GenAI tools are being used in the context of programming education, helping shape educational policies, and identifying areas where further research or training is needed.

8. What are your rights?

Participation is voluntary. We are only allowed to collect your data for our study if you consent to this. If you decide not to participate, you do not have to take any further action and you do not need to sign anything. Nor are you required to explain why you do not want to participate. If you decide to participate, we ask you to give explicit consent for the use of your data at the beginning of the survey. You can always change your mind and stop participating at any time (also after giving consent), including during the study. You will even be able to withdraw your consent after you have participated. However, we will not undo the processing of your data that has taken place up until that time. The personal data we have obtained from you will be erased (anonymized data with the personal code that you have created, so this excludes any already aggregated data).

If you no longer want to participate in the study, send an email to the principal investigator.

9. Do you have questions about your privacy?

If you have any complaints or questions about your privacy or the processing of personal data while taking part in the study, please send an email to the Faculty of Sciences Privacy Officer: privacy-beta@uu.nl. The Privacy Officer will also be able to assist you in exercising the rights you have under the GDPR. For details of our legal basis for using personal data and the rights you have over your data please see the University's privacy information at www.uu.nl/en/organisation/privacy.

10. More information about this study?

If you have any questions or concerns about this research project, you can talk to one of the researchers. Please contact Hieke Keuning (h.w.keuning@uu.nl) or Isaac Alpizar-Chacon (i.alpizarchacon@uu.nl).

If you have questions about your rights while taking part in the study or have concerns about the treatment of research participants, please write to the secretary of the SG ERB (etc-beta-geo@uu.nl).