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Type: **Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation**

# Exploring ChatGPT's Role in First-Year ESL Writing: Skills, Confidence, and Integrity

*Sunday 18 May 2025 12:30 (25 minutes)*

## TITLE

ChatGPT in First-Year ESL Writing: Skills, Confidence, and Integrity

## RELEVANT SIG

Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL)

## FORMAT

Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation (25 minutes, including Q&A)

## Short English description

This study explores the long-term impact of ChatGPT on first-year ESL students' writing skills, confidence, and academic integrity. Over two semesters, findings reveal writing improvements in an experimental group using ChatGPT while addressing challenges with ethical AI use.

## KEYWORDS

ChatGPT  
ESL writing  
Academic integrity  
AI in education

## First-time presenter?

## ABSTRACT

This presentation examines the long-term impact of ChatGPT on first-year ESL students' writing skills, confidence, and understanding of academic integrity, building on prior research into AI tools in language education. Conducted over two semesters, the study compares an experimental group using ChatGPT for brainstorming, content refinement, organization, and grammatical accuracy with a control group relying on traditional methods. Data from pre- and post-tests, level tests, and self-efficacy surveys reveal significant improvements in

writing proficiency, confidence, and organizational skills among the experimental group, particularly across different proficiency levels. Despite the introduction of guidelines on ethical AI use, findings highlight gaps in students' understanding and application of academic integrity principles when using ChatGPT. The study also examines challenges such as over-reliance on AI tools and ethical ambiguities, alongside the potential of AI to enhance first-year writing instruction. This session will explore research findings and their implications for integrating AI into foundational writing courses, offering insights into its benefits, limitations, and strategies to address ethical complexities in language education.

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**Session Classification:** B8-108 SAT: ICLE, Bilingualism & CALL / SUN: CUE & CALL

**Track Classification:** Computer Assisted Language Learning