What do you know about Academic Integrity?

It is not an integrity violation to copy words from the internet into a research paper as long as you include the source in your bibliography.

True  False

It is an integrity violation for two students to turn in identical papers if the professor said it was okay to work together.

True  False

You are guilty of an integrity violation if another student cheats from your test paper, even if you are unaware the student is cheating.

True  False

It is an integrity violation to turn in the same paper for two different classes.

True  False

It is an integrity violation to plagiarize a paper even if you did not intend to cheat.

True  False

For answers, visit the Honor Council website, www.ou.edu/honorcouncil

Additional Resources

Assessment and Learning Center
Carnegie 200, 325.4336
English, reading comprehension, mathematics, study skills, tutorials, test preparation, career exploration, COMPASS placement testing, Student Success Series

ConocoPhillips Writing Center
Bizzell Library, Neustadt Wing, LL227, 325.2936
The ConocoPhilips Writing Center provides consulting services for written papers and projects.

Test Files
Test Files for more than 600 undergraduate classes are available at sin.ou.edu.

The Academic Integrity Pledge

On my honor,
I affirm
that I have neither given
nor received
inappropriate aid in the
completion of this exercise.

Applying the Pledge

Professors may ask a student to add the Academic Integrity Pledge to papers, title pages, homework, and other assignments. This assures your professors that what they are receiving from you is completely your own, and that you take responsibility for the integrity of your work.

“A complete commitment to academic integrity is essential to maintaining the standards of a great university and, above all, maintaining our own self respect. Keeping the proud company of one’s own self respect is one of the keys to a satisfying and meaningful life.”

David L. Boren,
President

Printing funded by UOSA
Do OU students take integrity seriously?

In the 2004 assessment, a large number of students agreed that even helping someone else cheat is itself a serious form of academic misconduct. Forms of assisted cheating include providing assignment answers, completing group coursework, or supplying lab results. In the same survey, a majority of students supported OU's current academic integrity system.

The University of Oklahoma Student Association Honor Council

In 2003, the University of Oklahoma Student Association created an integrity pledge as an indication of students’ commitment to integrity. That same year, OU students created an honor council to be their voice in the academic integrity system. The Council is composed of students representing the various colleges on campus. It meets regularly to advise the Office of the Provost on matters of academic integrity policy at the university. Representatives also serve on academic misconduct boards and represent the university at national level conferences concerning academic integrity. The council advisors include Assistant Provost Dr. Greg Heiser and consulting faculty members.

“Academic integrity is a component of one’s personal integrity and honor. Citizens cannot build and sustain communities of integrity committed to justice for all without first committing to live their own lives with integrity.”

Nancy Mergler, Senior Vice-President and Provost

The University of Oklahoma Academic Misconduct System

A student charged with violating the Academic Misconduct Code always gets the chance to respond. In less serious cases, an admonition (formal warning) will be given by the instructor along with a grade penalty. In more serious cases, the instructor will file an academic misconduct charge. If guilt is established, either through a hearing or by the student’s own admission, both a grade penalty and a disciplinary penalty will be imposed. The grade penalty may be as severe as an F in the course. Institutional penalties include reprimand, suspension, and expulsion. Suspension and expulsion are noted on the student's transcript.

“Life is full of critical decisions. Life at OU is no different. You’ll be challenged with many significant choices: whether to go Greek, which classes to take, whether to study first or just hang out. One choice that shouldn’t be hard is upholding your integrity by not cheating or helping those who cheat. Academic dishonesty hurts all of us both in the immediate and the long term. After all, shouldn’t the greatest satisfaction from college be earning one’s degree honestly?

Do OU faculty take academic integrity seriously?

In 2004, The University of Oklahoma participated in an ongoing nationwide assessment of academic integrity on college campuses conducted by leading integrity researcher Don McCabe of The Center for Academic Integrity. In the survey, an overwhelming majority of OU professors agreed: faculty are vigilant in detecting and reporting academic misconduct. In the 2004-2005 academic year, there were 49 expulsions and suspensions for cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic misconduct.

“A boast you’ll never hear: ‘My lawyer, stock broker, and accountant are so clever, they cheated their way through college without getting caught, just like the engineer who designed my car, the contractor who built my house, and my heart surgeon!’”

Dr. Stuart Ryan, aka Dr. Indestructo, Professor, Department of Physics

The Academic Misconduct Process

“An incident or investigation

Instructor and student discuss

Instructor files CHARGE

Instructor files CHARGE

Student accepts admonition (if student contests, charge procedures followed)

Student contests charge

Student admits, meets with dean

Hearing

Verdict: NOT GUILTY

Verdict: GUILTY

Dean advises Provost; instructor imposes GRADE PENALTY up to F in course

Student REPRIMANDED, SUSPENDED, or EXPELLED.

“The purpose of a university is to create and communicate ideas. Our reputation requires that everyone in the university community follow one simple rule of academic integrity. We should take credit for our own ideas, but disclose the source of ideas that are not our own.”

Doug Gaffin, Dean, University College

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