

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Academic Integrity Policy

The vision of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences is for students and faculty to achieve excellence with integrity and perseverance in their academic, professional, and personal endeavors.

1. Academic Integrity. Academic integrity is a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and moral courage.
 - a. **Honesty**. Honesty is the foundation of teaching, learning, research, and service, and the prerequisite for full realization of trust, fairness, respect, and moral courage. Students and faculty must be honest with themselves and with each other.
 - b. **Trust**. Trust is promoted by faculty who set clear guidelines for assignments and evaluate student work according to these guidelines and in a timely manner; and by students who prepare work that is honest and thoughtful; and by departments that set clear and consistent standards.
 - c. **Fairness**. Fairness is about even-handedness and treating all students the same. Fair, accurate and reliable evaluation is essential in the educational process. All College of Humanities and Social Sciences faculty, staff, and students have a role in ensuring fairness. For students, important components of fairness are predictability, clear expectations, and a consistent and just response to dishonesty. Faculty members have a right to expect fair treatment from students and by administrators. A lapse by one student does not excuse misconduct of another.
 - d. **Respect**. To be most rewarding, teaching and learning demand active engagement and mutual respect. Students show respect by attending class, being on time, paying attention, listening to other points of view, being prepared, contributing to discussion, and not distracting their professors or classmates. Faculty show respect by taking students' ideas seriously, providing appropriate feedback, valuing their aspirations and goals, listening carefully to students, and recognizing them as individuals.
 - e. **Moral courage**. In this context, moral courage means taking action against wrongdoing, despite peer pressure, fear, or loyalty. Individuals should take responsibility for their own honesty and should discourage and seek to prevent the misconduct of others. It also means standing up for virtuous behaviors and values.
2. Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to be above reproach in scholastic activities. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an exam for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.
3. Excellence. The pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, and service is expected from all faculty members. The pursuit of excellence in all academic activities is expected of all students. Excellence in any endeavor requires dedication of time and effort.
4. Perseverance. Perseverance means to continue, in spite of difficulty, discouragement, and other obstacles, toward excellence in one's academic, professional, and personal endeavors. Perseverance implies hard work, dedication of time, diligence, and life-long learning.

Adapted from The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity. The Center for Academic Integrity. (October 1999).