

## What is Academic Integrity?

“Academic integrity is defined as being a firm adherence to a code or standard of values. It is a commitment on the part of students, faculty, and staff, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action” (The Center For Academic Integrity, 2007). Unfortunately, when these ideals are not translated to each and everyone in the academic community, scholastic dishonesty is inevitable.

## What Constitutes Scholastic Dishonesty?

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion on an examination or an assignment being offered for credit. Each student is accountable for work submitted for credit, including group projects;

-*Cheating on an examination or an assignment* includes:

- copying the work of another; allowing someone to copy; engaging in written, oral or any other means of communication with another; or giving aid to or seeking aid from another when not permitted by the instructor;
- using material during an examination or when completing an assignment that is not authorized by the person giving the examination or making the work assignment, including, but not limited to, electronic or digital devices such as calculators, cell phones, camera phones, scanner pens, PDAs, or flash drives, etc.;
- taking or attempting to take an examination for another, or allowing another to take or attempt to take an examination for a student;
- using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means, the whole or any part of an examination or work assignment that is not provided for your use by your instructor;
- any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such an act;

-*Plagiarism* means the unacknowledged incorporation of the work of another in work that is offered for credit;

-*Collusion* means the unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing work that is offered for credit.

## The Disciplinary Process: Scholastic Dishonesty

### FACULTY MEMBER SUSPECTS DISHONESTY

#### FACULTY MEMBER CONFERS WITH STUDENT

The faculty member may decide no infraction occurred,

**OR** the faculty member may decide that an infraction occurred and the student may choose not to dispute the facts and accept a sanction given by the faculty member (Form 1),

**OR** the student denies scholastic dishonesty, and the matter is referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs (Form 2).

#### FACULTY DISPOSITION

The information (Form 1) is forwarded to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs who sanctions the student for the infraction.

Within 14 days of accepting administrative disposition, the student may appeal to the president.

Otherwise, the decision is final.

#### REFERRAL TO THE OFFICE OF SJA

The judicial officer confers with student and faculty member about the allegation.

The judicial officer may dismiss the case if the evidence is insufficient,

**OR** the student may choose not to dispute the facts and accept an administrative disposition.

**OR** the student may choose a University hearing.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE DISPOSITION

Within 14 days of accepting administrative disposition, the student may appeal the discipline sanction to the president.

Otherwise, the decision is final.

#### UNIVERSITY HEARING

After hearing the facts, the Hearing Officer may dismiss the case or find the student responsible and impose a sanction.

Within 14 days of the decision, the student may appeal the discipline sanction to the president.

#### APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT BASED ON FACTS AND/OR SANCTION

The president may reverse the decision regarding the facts,

**OR** uphold the decision regarding both the facts and sanction,

**OR** uphold the decision regarding the facts but increase or reduce the sanction.



**Office of Student Judicial Affairs**  
Your Rights and Responsibilities as a  
Member of The University Community

E.H. Hereford University Center  
B160, Lower Level  
Box 19355  
Arlington, Texas 76019  
817-272-2354  
Fax: 817-272-5221  
<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs>



## Conduct Code Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Any violation of the Regents' Rules and Regulations of the University of Texas System
- Violation of any rule or regulation of the University or the University of Texas System
- Failure to comply with any University official
- Damaging University property
- Unauthorized entry into any University facility
- Scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or collusion
- Forging, altering, mutilating, or destroying an official University document, permit, ticket, or identification
- Illegal use of a University permit, ticket, or identification that does not belong to the student
- Any involvement in or knowledge of hazing
- Any illegal use, manufacture, possession, or sale of drugs or drug paraphernalia
- Unauthorized use or possession of alcohol or public intoxication
- Any behavior that violates federal, state, or local law
- Possession or use of any explosive, firearm, imitation firearm, ammunition, hazardous chemical or weapon
- Support, oral or written, directed at inciting or producing a policy violation
- Physical abuse, or the threat of physical abuse
- Inappropriate or disruptive behavior
- Use of any fountain or other artificial body of water in an unauthorized manner
- Appearance in or on a University facility without written permission of the president after having been suspended or expelled from the University or any other component of the University of Texas System for disciplinary reasons

## Referral Process for Non-Academic Violations

Judicial Affairs receives a referral from one of the following: university police, housing, faculty, staff, or another student.



A summons letter is sent to all the students involved in the alleged policy violation. Each student is required to meet with a judicial officer. Failure to make or keep a meeting will result in a hold on the student's enrollment.



During the meeting, both sides of the incident are reviewed. At this time, the student may accept responsibility for involvement in the incident or may request a university hearing. If it is determined that there is not enough evidence, the case will be dismissed.



If the student accepts responsibility, he/she will be notified in writing of any sanctions and due date(s) for educational sanctions.



If the student requests a university hearing, a hearing officer is appointed by the vice president of Student Affairs. The hearing officer will hear the allegation and make a decision regarding the allegation.



The student can appeal the decision to the president.

The president may reverse the decision regarding the facts, uphold the decision, or uphold the decision, but increase or reduce the sanction.

## Consequences include, but are not limited to:

- Disciplinary probation
- Withholding of grades, official transcript, or degree
- Bar against readmission or drop from current enrollment
- Restitution for damages or theft
- Suspension of rights and privileges, including, but not limited to, University housing, campus recreation, student organizations, and student activities
- Grading sanction assigned by faculty
- Suspension from the University (for a specified period of time)
- Expulsion (permanent separation from the University)
- Participation in educational programs
- Revocation of degree and withdrawal of diploma
- Notation on transcript
- Other sanction(s) as deemed appropriate under the circumstances

**An official copy of the code of conduct can be found online at:**  
[www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs](http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs)

**Students are expected to adhere to the code of conduct both on and off campus.**

