

## Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code which should be reproduced on your syllabus:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code*

It is the policy of the University to enforce these standards by following fair and objective procedures in instances of alleged dishonesty, cheating or other academic misconduct. Students found responsible for dishonesty in their academic pursuits are subject to sanctions that may lead to disciplinary probation, temporary suspension or even expulsion from the University.

### What Is Academic Integrity?

Academic integrity is defined as being a firm adherence to five fundamental values:

- Honesty
- Truth
- Fairness
- Respect
- Responsibility

Academic dishonesty arises when these values are not translated into behavior. It is the policy of the University that if a student chooses to act in an academically dishonest way, he or she will be held personally accountable for that choice and any consequences that follow. The official definition of academic 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. The Office of Student Judicial Affairs defines the key terms in the definition of academic dishonesty in the following manner:

#### Cheating

- Copying another's test or assignment
- Communication with another during an exam or assignment (i.e., written, oral or otherwise)
- Giving or seeking aid from another when not permitted by the instructor
- Possessing or using unauthorized materials during the test
- Buying, using, stealing, transporting, or soliciting a test, draft of a test, or answer key.

#### Plagiarism

- Using someone else's work in your assignment without appropriate acknowledgement
- Making slight variations in the language and then failing to give credit to the source.

#### Collusion

Without authorization, collaborating with another when preparing an assignment. Clearly, it is better to take steps to promote academic integrity than to respond to instances of academic dishonesty. Appendix B contains numerous suggestions that will support the former and discourage

the latter. However, despite your efforts you may have to respond to situations where you feel academic dishonesty has taken place. The following provides describes how to proceed.

### **Responding to Academic Dishonesty**

Procedures regarding allegations of academic dishonesty must be followed carefully. The process begins with a discussion with the student regarding the alleged act of dishonesty. This should be done in discreetly and in private. If you determine that the student was not acting dishonestly, the process comes to an end. If you remain convinced that he or she violated rules of academic honesty then you should complete and submit either of two different forms to Student Judicial Affairs depending on whether the student admits to or denies the allegation. If the student admits to the accusation, you may use the form to indicate what academic penalties you feel should be imposed. If the student denies any wrong doing, the case will be heard before Judicial Affairs and that office will determine what consequences, if any, should be applied. A student who has denied your charge should be given a grade of incomplete in your course until Judicial Affairs decides the matter. **You should not impose any sanctions on a student you suspect of academic dishonesty without following the prescribed procedure.**

Follow this link to see a schematic overview of the process <http://www.uta.edu/conduct/academic-integrity/index.php>.