

Academic Misconduct

The University expects students to operate with the highest standard of integrity in all facets of the collegiate experience. Broadly defined, academic misconduct is any unethical self-serving action in the performance of an academic activity, deliberate or unintentional, that affords a student an unfair, unearned, or undeserved advantage. (*Excerpt from the WKU Student Handbook, 2016*)

Examples of Areas Where Academic Misconduct Most Likely Occurs

“Essentially, students are expected to do work that is assigned to them and submit products that represent personal and individual effort only.”

1. In an exam setting
 - a. Presenting as your work, test answers that are not your work, including the following:
 - i. Using resources other than those specifically allowed by the instructor (e.g., notes or another person)
 - ii. Copying from another student’s test
 - iii. Using notes from any source during a test when notes are not allowed
 - iv. Using materials that the instructor is not making available to the whole class (Exception: students with disabilities needing accommodations)
 - v. Recycling an assignment that has been used in another course (unless approved by the instructor)
 - b. Acquiring a copy of the exam without permission
 - c. Providing answers for or soliciting answers from another student with or without permission of the other student (Note: This may either be an attempt to help or harm the targeted student)
2. On a written assignment
 - a. Presenting as your own work duplicated work that you did not create
 - i. Purchasing written work from an external source
 - ii. Copying work from a free external source (online or otherwise)
 - iii. Presenting as your work something another person has created
 - b. Altering text from another source
 - i. Altering select words of some original text in order to conceal plagiarism
3. Academic dishonesty that is possible in various settings
 - a. Providing money or favors in order to gain academic advantage
 - b. Falsely stating that work was given to the instructor at a certain time when it was not
 - c. Correcting the responses of a graded assignment and presenting them to the instructor as incorrectly graded material
 - d. Pretending to be someone you are not; taking the place of another
4. Or any other behavior that violates the basic principles of integrity and honesty

(*Excerpt from the Academic Integrity Statement Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Academic Integrity in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, 2012*)

When Violations Occur

Academic misconduct is a violation the Code of Student Conduct. When violations occur:

1. Procedural due process
 - a. WKU Student Handbook, College Handbook, Syllabi
 - i. May choose to assign a failing grade on the assignment
 - ii. May choose to assign a failing grade for the class without an option to withdraw
 - iii. Expulsion may occur at the recommendation of the University Disciplinary Committee (UDC)
2. Faculty member or reporting staff should meet or communicate with the offending student to inform of the policy violation
 - a. Procedures must conform to those outlined by the Faculty Handbook, Student Handbook, and syllabus.
 - b. Inform of intentions consistent with procedural due process
 - c. Inform of intent to refer to the Dean of Students and/or The Office of Student Conduct
3. Notify the Dean of Students and/or the Office of Student Conduct
 - a. Role of the Office of Student Conduct
 - i. The Dean of Students may refer cases of academic dishonesty to The Office of Student Conduct for review and additional action. Faculty members are strongly encouraged to report policy violations to the Dean of Students and/or the Office of Student Conduct so that we may assist the student in correcting the behavior, hold student's accountable for their actions, track violations, and to stop serial violators
 - ii. Following the referral and submission of supporting documentation via email, an incident report is generated within the Office of Student Conduct. Submit the email and supporting documentation to student.conduct@wku.edu.
 - iii. The Office of Student Conduct staff will meet with the student
 1. Determine whether additional sanctioning is necessary
 2. Connect student to other campus resources (safety net)
 3. The Office of Student Conduct according to the procedures outlined within the guidelines of FERPA will permit limited disclosure of conduct outcomes, and maintains records related to cases involving violations

Resources:

www.wku.edu/senate/.../master-wku-faculty-handbook-21st-edition.pdf (page 58)

http://www.wku.edu/undergraduatecatalog/documents/15_16_ugrad_catalog/academic_information.pdf. (Page 33)

<http://www.academicintegrity.org/icai/home.php>

“Practicing personal and academic integrity”

Academic Misconduct Discussion
Academic Deans, Department Heads, and Directors
Thursday, August 11, 2016
Michael Crowe, Director, Office of Student Conduct
V. Lynne Holland, Ph.D., AVPSA/Dean of Students

→ Plagiarism Policy Dept Mtg
→ Lynette's breackline
Gotten it read cheating
IU survey on plag
Clemson U has
something