



## **Academic Integrity**

The principles of truth and integrity are recognized as fundamental to a community of teachers and scholars. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor these principles and in so doing will protect the integrity of all academic work and student grades. Students are expected to do all work assigned to them without unauthorized assistance and without giving unauthorized assistance. Faculty have the responsibility of exercising care in the planning and supervision of academic work so that honest effort will be encouraged and positively reinforced.

There are certain forms of conduct that violate the university's policy of academic integrity.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING)** is a broad category of actions that involve fraud and deception to improve a grade or obtain course credit. Academic dishonesty (cheating) is not limited to examination situations alone, but arises whenever students attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. **PLAGIARISM** is a specific form of academic dishonesty (cheating) which consists of the misuse of published or unpublished works of another by claiming them as one's own. Plagiarism may consist of handing in someone else's work as one's own, copying or purchasing a pre-written composition and claiming it as one's own, using paragraphs, sentences, phrases, words or ideas written by another without giving appropriate citation, or using data and/or statistics compiled by another without giving appropriate citation. Another example of academic dishonesty (cheating) is the **SUBMISSION OF THE SAME, OR ESSENTIALLY THE SAME, PAPER** or other assignment for credit in two different courses without receiving prior approval from the instructors of the affected courses.

When a faculty member discovers a violation of the university's policy of academic integrity, the faculty member is required to notify the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities and the

student(s) involved. A course grade of 'F' may be assigned or another grade penalty may be applied at the discretion of the course instructor. Additional disciplinary sanctions are determined by the Director of the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Disciplinary sanctions may include disciplinary probation, suspension, permanent expulsion from the university or from the California State University system, administrative hold on the release of records, and withholding a degree. Disciplinary probation shall be noted on the student's formal academic record only for the duration of the probationary period. Disciplinary suspension of more than one academic year and expulsion are a part of the student's permanent record.

The student may pursue a formal hearing or make a settlement agreement with the Director of the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities shall conduct an investigation, confer with the faculty member, students and any witnesses identified, and review all evidence. The student is entitled to a formal hearing scheduled by the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, in which the evidence of the alleged violation shall be presented before an impartial Hearing Officer (appointed by the President) and the student shall be present to provide an explanation or defense. The Hearing Officer shall submit a written report to the President containing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations. Alternatively, a settlement agreement may be made with the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. The settlement agreement will specify the disciplinary sanctions, the length and terms of disciplinary probation or suspension, and the conditions the student is expected to meet in order to remain in good standing (e.g., training or regular meetings with the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities). All sanctions are reported to the instructor reporting the incident, the student's Chair, and the student's Dean.

Any repeated violation of academic integrity shall result in more serious academic sanctions. Normally, this will include suspension or expulsion from the university with a note on the student's permanent record.