


In 1995, the students of The George Washington University committed themselves to high standards of academic integrity by passing a Code of Academic Integrity. By attending GW, you are a part of this tradition, too.



COMMITMENT TO
ACADEMIC HONESTY
UPLIFTS THE
RESPECT
FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
AND COMMUNITY VALUES
AND NURTURES.
TO THIS END, WE HAVE
ESTABLISHED
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
CODE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY."

-- Preamble, Code of Academic Integrity

The Code of Academic Integrity:

- was developed by faculty and students working together, with input from the University administration;
- promotes uniformity and fairness by centralizing the adjudication of academic dishonesty cases in CSAS, ESIA, GSEHD, SBPM, SEAS and all programs in the Medical Center, except the Doctor of Medicine program.
- switches University emphasis from simply punishing academic dishonesty to actively promoting academic integrity.

The code is available in the *Student Planner and Handbook* and in the Guide to Student Rights and Responsibilities. The Guide is available in the Office of the Dean of Students, the office of each school's dean, and the Academic Integrity Office.

What is Academic Dishonesty?

According to the Code of Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.

Examples of cheating include:

- Using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
- Fabrication or falsification of information.
- Plagiarism -- intentionally misrepresenting another's work, failure to paraphrase.
- Forgery of academic documents.
- Facilitating academic dishonesty.

What is the Academic Integrity Council?

The Academic Integrity Council is a group of faculty and students charged with promoting academic integrity and with handling cases of academic dishonesty.

The Council has faculty, undergraduate student and graduate student representatives from all the participating schools.

The Council's activities are coordinated by the Office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Practice Academic Integrity

1) KNOW THE CODE.

The best way to avoid breaking the rules is to make yourself aware of them. Understand the different acts which constitute academic dishonesty so you can avoid them.

2) PLAN AHEAD.

Don't put yourself in a situation where you might be tempted to cheat. Procrastination can sometimes lead to desperation -- and this can lead to cheating. Adequate preparation includes having a complete understanding of the assignment, finding adequate sources of information, and leaving yourself enough time to complete the assignment.

3) GET HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT.

If you are having trouble with work, don't cheat -- get help. There are several offices on campus which can help you, including the University Counseling Center, the Writing Center, the Library Reference Desk and tutors in each academic department.

4) WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK.

When in doubt, ask your professor for guidance. The professor is the one who can decide what is academic dishonesty and what isn't. Don't take a chance by doing something you aren't sure about. The Academic Integrity Office can also be consulted if you have questions.