

Stop Cheating!

**A Faculty Workshop on Academic Integrity
Thursday, February 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

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Academic Integrity

Develop a culture of integrity on your campus:

“Academic Integrity is a fundamental value of teaching, learning, and scholarship. Yet, there is growing evidence that students cheat and plagiarize.”

Center for Academic Integrity: <http://www.academicintegrity.org>

pla·gia·rism

Show your students that you cite your sources:

–noun

- 1.the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work.
- 2.something used and represented in this manner.

"plagiarism." *Dictionary.com Unabridged (v 1.1)*.

Random House, Inc. 19 Feb. 2009. <Dictionary.com

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/plagiarism>>.

A Case in point:



- An English instructor asked students to summarize a book in their own words.
- 5 international students submitted the same review – found online.
- After speaking to the students, several of them repeated a similar offense.

What could this instructor have done differently?

Alternatives:



Ask students to:

- Compare two sources
- Relate content to their own experience
- Write citation and annotation with responses to specific questions
- Compare a central theme to another author's perspective.



Tools to catch cheaters

[EVE Plagiarism Detection System](#)

(This is a viable option for individual faculty.)

[Turnitin.com](#)

(This is a subscription service for individual faculty or an entire institution.)

These services require students to submit their writing in electronic form. They can make students feel that they are considered guilty until proven innocent.

Do faculty want to be police?

Cheating students cheat themselves.

We want our students to develop:

- Self-responsibility
- Critical thinking
- Information literacy
- Ethical behavior

<http://www.seattlecentral.org/sccc/outcomes.php>

Cheating subverts learning

- Teach students we expect original work
- Teach them what plagiarism means
- Develop assignments that make it hard to cheat



Institutional Position

Student Conduct reports are submitted first to your dean, then to the appropriate Student Services administrator:

- North: Roy Flores
- Central: Joan Ray
- South: Mark Mitsui

Official responses

- First time warning
- Second time treated more seriously

Alternatives?



Develop assignments that make it hard to cheat:

- Avoid open-ended assignments with few parameters.
- Adjust grading structure to put more weight on the process and less on the final product
- Require students to relate readings or concepts to their own experience

How to Address Cheating

When it happens:

- Include the consequences for cheating in your syllabus [Students should fail the assignment; depending on how the assignment is weighted, they may also fail the course.]
- File a conduct report — this may not be a first offence
- Share your experience with other instructors

What can we do?



Teach students to avoid plagiarism:

A tutorial from our neighbors to the north...

<http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/>

Communicate expectations

- Include language on the course syllabus
- Develop a contract which asks students to affirm they will comply

Promote culture of integrity

- Academic integrity should be a campus value. Work with your colleagues to develop this culture.

<http://www.academicintegrity.org/>

- Students who see others cheat and get away with it are more likely to do likewise.



Promote Information Literacy

“The information literate student understands many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and accesses and uses information ethically and legally.”

American Library Association

Try these strategies



- Apply a local issue to the global environment (or vice-versa)
- Weight your grading to the process as well as the product
- Require in-class writing (remember that assignment to summarize?)
- Require a bibliographic essay before a longer research paper



Work with your librarian

- Librarians can help with research assignment design and resources
- Do we have what your students need?
- Do you know your librarian?

NSCC <http://dept.sccd.ctc.edu/nslib/faculty.htm#Division>

SCCC http://dept.sccd.ctc.edu/cclib/For_Faculty/liaisons.asp

SSCC <http://dept.sccd.ctc.edu/sslib/contactus.asp>

It's not just about writing...

So you don't teach writing?

- Students are creative, but so are you!
- Work with faculty in your subject area to develop strategies for subject-specific circumstances.



Resources for teaching

- [Center for Academic Integrity](#) – promotes values of academic integrity on campus
- [Stanford University Library](#) – provides resources on copyright and fair use guidelines
- [Plagiarism.org](#) – offers research resources for students and teachers