

Academic Integrity Policy

The School of Engineering catalog states the following about personal integrity and professional responsibility.

Honor Code Policy

Honor System

The purpose of the School of Engineering honor system is to inculcate in each student the highest standard of personal integrity and professional responsibility. The honor pledge below stresses student honesty both in and out of the classroom. For dealing with infractions, the School of Engineering adopted the University policy "Academic Conduct and Discipline."

"I PLEDGE MYSELF TO UPHOLD THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF HONESTY IN MY UNIVERSITY LIFE AND I WILL NOT TOLERATE DISHONESTY ON THE PART OF OTHERS."

Recognizing the importance of personal and professional integrity at the university and throughout one's career, the school adopted the present policy to codify this position.

1. To promote a culture of personal integrity and professional responsibility, the following actions shall be taken by students and instructors in the School of Engineering.
 - a. Students will acknowledge this Academic Integrity Policy by providing a signature in a designated web portal.
 - b. Faculty are to emphasize academic honesty, describe academic integrity, and be clear about the consequences of academic misconduct.
 - c. Faculty are to include the suggested syllabus text on student academic conduct (Appendix 1).
2. In cases where academic misconduct is found, the following actions shall be taken.
 - a. Faculty who detect academic misconduct must communicate directly with the student and apply a sanction, which can be:
 - i. Repeat assignment/test/quiz/project
 - ii. Failure or reduced grade on assignment/test/quiz/project
 - iii. Reduced grade in the course
 - b. Faculty shall report academic misconduct in the Academic Discipline portal in myOleMiss, after communicating with the student.
 - c. After the first instance of confirmed academic misconduct by the University's Academic Discipline Committee, the department chair will meet with the student and have the student acknowledge that a second occurrence of academic misconduct may result in harsher consequences. The chair may choose to have the student sign a form acknowledging receipt of the warning (Appendix 2).
 - d. If a second case of academic misconduct occurs, the student is to meet with the dean or other relevant stakeholders (associate dean, assistant dean, course instructor, chair) who will discuss with the student the seriousness of academic misconduct and attempt to identify the cause. The dean and stakeholders will decide on another sanction beyond that given by the course instructor in which the second offense was committed. The additional sanction(s) may include, but is(are) not limited, to: Disciplinary Probation, Non-eligibility for Awards, Non-renewal of Scholarships, Failure in the Course, Disciplinary Suspension, and Disciplinary Expulsion.

Appendix 1

“Boilerplate” Syllabus Text on Student Academic Conduct

- **Minimal version**

Student Academic Conduct

The University of Mississippi is dedicated to supporting and sustaining a safe and scholarly community of learning dedicated to nurturing excellence inside and outside of the classroom. Each student has a duty to become familiar with and to honor university values and standards as outlined in the *M Book* (<https://conflictresolution.olemiss.edu/m-book>).

Dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University, are regarded as particularly serious offenses. Examples of academic misconduct are: plagiarism; using someone's work; knowingly allowing someone else to represent your work as his/her own; gaining or attempting to gain an unfair advantage; giving false information or altering documents; disruptive behavior.

The academic discipline procedure may be invoked whenever the principles of honesty and fairness are violated and/or the facilities that support the academic environment are harmed. The examples given above are illustrative only (it is impossible to delineate or cite every possible violation), and any act that violates the principles of honesty and fairness may be subject to academic discipline. Some acts, such as sabotage of another student's work or sabotage of an instructor's records, may not fall neatly into any one of the areas listed above but are subject to academic discipline if found damaging to the academic environment at the University of Mississippi.

- **Elaborated version**

Student Academic Conduct

The University's policies on student academic conduct and discipline are described in the *M Book* (<https://conflictresolution.olemiss.edu/m-book>) and university policy ACA.AR.600.001 (<https://policies.olemiss.edu/ShowDetails.jsp?istatPara=1&policyObjidPara=10817696>).

Dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are regarded as particularly serious offenses. Examples of academic misconduct follow.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense in which someone else's work is presented as one's own. There are many forms of plagiarism. Plagiarism takes place when published material is copied verbatim or paraphrased without appropriately citing the source of material, and is not limited to copying the exact words from published material. Forms of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, copying published material verbatim, paraphrasing the work of another without properly citing that work, keeping the content and/or structure of another's work and changing the words, and unfairly using material, such as taking large portions of another's work without substantial addition of one's own ideas or commentary. (For more specific examples of plagiarism, please visit <http://www.plagiarism.org>.) In addition to these examples of plagiarism, a student who copies another's homework, copies answers to test questions, or allows someone else to do work for him/her on homework or tests also violates the standards of honesty and fairness and is subject to academic discipline.

Using someone's work. A student who misrepresents the work of another as his/her own is engaging in academic misconduct. For example, handing in a paper purchased from a term paper service, using a paper prepared by another, or engaging another person to take a test (class-related or standardized, such as the GRE) in his/her stead, are examples of academic misconduct. This type of academic misconduct applies to all disciplines and fields of study.

Knowingly allowing someone else to represent your work as his/her own. By letting someone else use your work, there are at least two people involved: the person who does the work and the person who falsely represents that work as her or his own. Both are subject to academic discipline.

Gaining or attempting to gain an unfair advantage. Violations of the University's standards of honesty include possession, or an attempt to gain possession, of a test prior to its being given. An attempt to gain possession does not imply that one must physically have an original of the test or assignment. Other violations include, but are not limited to: accessing computer files; breaking or entering a locked or unoccupied office in an attempt to gain an unfair advantage; using a cell phone or other device to obtain materials from websites (e.g., Chegg, Course Hero, Slader) or other students; using reference materials that have not been allowed by the instructor; using handwritten or printed notes during a "closed book/closed notes" test; stealing books or other materials from the Library, Museums, Computer Center, or other University facilities; removing pages from University-owned books or journals; and/or employing bribery, intimidation, or harassment in an attempt to gain unfair advantage.

Giving false information or altering documents. Falsely attesting that work has been accomplished when it has not been, falsely attesting that functions or classes were attended that were not attended, and altering answers to test questions after the tests have been graded and returned are examples of giving false information. Altering grade report forms or changing grade forms or class rolls, either in their physical or electronic (computer file) form, and altering, falsifying, or misusing any other University documents also constitutes a violation of expected standards of honesty. Falsifying research data or other scientific misconduct also may be considered a violation.

Disruptive behavior. Disorderly behavior that disrupts the academic environment violates the standard of fair access to the academic experience. Some examples of disruptive behavior are purposeful acts, such as "shouting down" a seminar speaker, physically or verbally harassing an instructor or fellow student, damaging furniture, equipment, and facilities, or engaging in any type of disruptive behavior in a class situation that interferes with the ability of the professor to teach or other students to learn.

Violations are not limited to the areas and examples given. The academic discipline procedure may be invoked whenever the principles of honesty and fairness are violated and/or the facilities that support the academic environment are harmed. The examples given above are illustrative only (it is impossible to delineate or cite every possible violation), and any act that violates the principles of honesty and fairness may be subject to academic discipline. Some acts, such as sabotage of another student's work or sabotage of an instructor's records, may not fall neatly into any one of the areas listed above but are subject to academic discipline if found damaging to the academic environment at the University of Mississippi.

Appendix 2

Suggested Academic Discipline Acknowledgement

I, _____, acknowledge that a repeated occurrence of academic misconduct on my part may result in additional or harsher sanctions than the first occurrence of academic misconduct. Additional or harsher sanctions may include: Disciplinary Probation, Non-eligibility for Awards, Non-renewal of Scholarships, Reduced Grade in the Course, Failure in the Course, Disciplinary Suspension, and Disciplinary Expulsion.

Signature: _____ Date: _____