

Policy on academic integrity

All students must fully familiarize themselves with University policy on academic integrity posted at the website <https://catalog.buffalo.edu/policies/integrity.html>. Acceptable and unacceptable conduct will be reviewed on the first day of class. Acts of academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism or other infractions, will not be tolerated. As discussed on the first day of class, the concept of plagiarism applies not only to text per se, but also to mathematical derivations and computer programs. Students will be required to take responsibility for acts of academic dishonesty by bearing penalties resulting from these acts. Suspected instances of academic dishonesty will be investigated thoroughly in accordance with Steps 1–3 of the University's Consultative Resolution process. If an act of academic dishonesty is substantiated, then a point penalty will be imposed at the first instance, and failure in the course will be imposed at any subsequent instance. Being allowed to continue the course with a point penalty is contingent on offering a reasonable explanation of the infraction. The instructor will be happy to answer questions about what does and does not constitute allowed behavior at any time. The instructor will cooperate fully with any investigation resulting from an appeal of a finding of academic dishonesty.

Examples of allowed (academically honest) behavior

Discussing the general approach to solving a homework problem with another student

Verbally comparing a final answer and/or one intermediate result in a homework problem with another student

Acknowledging having received more than the allowed amount of help from another student with a brief statement (written on the homework before turning it in) indicating the other student's name, the nature of the help received, and a reasonably accurate percentage representing one's own contribution to the answer

Examples of disallowed (academically dishonest) behavior

Repeatedly asking another student for verbal help on a homework problem so that the other student effectively thought out the solution (penalty for first infraction = 10% of student's semester homework total)

Copying from another student's homework paper (penalty for first infraction = 25% of student's semester homework total + $\frac{1}{2}$ letter grade)

Copying from an old homework solution obtained from any source (penalty for first infraction = 50% of student's semester homework total + $\frac{2}{3}$ letter grade)

Copying from another student's paper during an exam (penalty for first infraction = 50% of student's semester exam total + $\frac{2}{3}$ letter grade)

Using formulas, notes or other information stored on a calculator, phone or any other object that is not the allowed three crib sheets during an exam (penalty for first infraction = 50% of student's semester exam total + $\frac{2}{3}$ letter grade)

Altering a blue book after it was returned, and then submitting it for a regrade (penalty for first infraction = 50% of student's semester exam total + $\frac{2}{3}$ letter grade)

Good general rules of thumb

You should not find yourself working so closely with another student that you can read what is written on his or her paper.

Valid exchanges of information are roughly equivalent to what could be conveyed in a three-word text message, not more.