



# **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

For ITAs

# WHAT IS "ACADEMIC INTEGRITY?" AND WHY CARE ABOUT IT?

"Academic Integrity (AI) is a fundamental value of teaching, learning, and scholarship (the central mission of the university). The University must ensure that the pursuit of knowledge is conducted with **honesty** and **integrity**. Students need to be aware of the University's expectations regarding AI, and faculty and teaching assistants are in the best position to teach them."

<http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>



# VALUES OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- Syracuse University's AI Policy states that: "Academic Integrity includes a commitment to the values of **honesty**, **trustworthiness**, **fairness**, and **respect**."

([http://supolicies.syr.edu/ethics/acad\\_integrity.htm](http://supolicies.syr.edu/ethics/acad_integrity.htm))



# SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY AI EXPECTATIONS

- Credit your sources
- Do your own work
- Communicate honestly
- Support academic integrity

[http://supolicies.syr.edu/ethics/acad\\_integrity.htm](http://supolicies.syr.edu/ethics/acad_integrity.htm)

# APPLICATION SCOPE

- Academic integrity applies to **written work**, but also to other kinds of work:
  - Presentations – visual or oral
  - Works of art
  - Multimedia
  - Collaboration (group projects/writing/ laboratory work)– vary by context
- Speak your expectations clearly

# TOOLS FOR TEACHING USE OF SOURCES

- The Harvard Guide to Using Sources
- Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)
- (<http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>)
- When writing/speaking either, (i) summarize (ii) paraphrase, or (iii) quote other scholars' work within your work.
- Differentiate between the above three, and must include citation of the source.

# WHY CITE?

- "To show your readers that you have done your research
- To give credit to others for work they have done
- To point your readers to sources that may be useful to them.
- To allow your readers to check your sources, if there are questions
- Citing sources points the way for other scholars..."

\* <https://integrity.mit.edu/citing-your-sources/avoiding-plagiarism-cite-your-source>

# REFERENCE STYLES IN THE AMERICAN ACADEMIA

- MLA (Modern Language Association) <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/>
  - Example: Lentricchia, Frank. *Modernist Quartet*. New York: Cambridge UP, 1994.
- APA (American Psychological Association): <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>
  - Example: Van Roon, A., Mulder, L., Althaus, M., and Mulder, G. (2004). *Introducing a Baroflex Model for Studying Cardiovascular Effects of Mental Workload*. *Psychophysiology*, 41, 961–981.
- Chicago: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/12/>
  - Example: Christine Stansell, *American Moderns: Bohemian New York and the Creation of a New Century* (New York: Henry Holt and Co., 2000), 18.



# AI VIOLATIONS AND NEGLIGENCE

- “ **Dishonest plagiarism** means knowingly presenting another person’s work as one’s own work without acknowledgment of the source”\*
- In contrast, **academic negligence** is “careless or mistaken academic work that otherwise appears to constitute deliberate academic dishonesty.”\*
- “Students are accountable for academic negligence even if they lack an intent to deceive... Academic negligence typically results in grade reductions, course failure, or loss of academic standing, as determined by appropriate instructors, departments, or programs.”\*

\*<http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

# OBVIOUS CASES OF VIOLATIONS

- Paper is downloaded from an Internet source and/or from a paper mill.”\*
- “Paper contains part or all of the writings of another person (including another student), without citation.”\*
- “Paper contains passages that were cut and pasted from an Internet source, without citation, changing the language \*.
- Using prohibited sources in an exam or for academic work.\*

# CASES OF VIOLATION CONT...

- Dividing assignment among several people and the collective result is presented as done by one individual.\*
- Falsifying data\*
- Forging professor's signature to add/drop classes\*
- Changing answers on an exam for re-grade.\*
- Misrepresenting family situations/lie to get an extension or a make-up exam\*
- Assisting others in doing any of the above.\*

<http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>



# GRAY AREAS

Case Studies



# INADEQUATE CITATIONS

Arun is working on a paper for his ecology class. The assignment is about sustainable agriculture, something that he has not learned much about before. To help him write a better paper, Arun finds some sources online from experts in the field. To support the ideas in his paper, he includes some sentences directly from these expert sources within any in-text references to the author. He then lists all the references at the end of his paper.

- Any material that is taken from an outside source needs a citation, whether it is directly quoted or paraphrased

# BAD PARAPHRASING

- Jennifer is working on an assignment for her introductory biology course. She finds this helpful information about mitosis on Wikipedia: “The process of mitosis is fast and highly complex. The sequence of events is divided into stages corresponding to the completion of one set of activities and the start of the next. These stages are prophase, prometaphase, metaphase, anaphase, and telophase.” She paraphrases this information so that she can include it in her paper without using quotation marks. This is her finished response:
- *Mitosis is quick and highly complex. The sequence is divided into stages that correspond to the end of one set of activities and the start of the next. There are five stages: prophase, prometaphase, metaphase, anaphase, and telophase. (Wikipedia)*

# PARAPHRASING

- **Paraphrasing:** “It means taking the words of another source and restating them, using your own vocabulary. In this way, you keep the meaning of the original text, but do not copy its exact wording.”\* You need to credit the source in the text (it’s not enough to write the reference in your bibliography).
- An instance of plagiarism: using the author’s exact words without enclosing them in quotation marks.\*

\*<https://integrity.mit.edu/academic-writing/avoiding-plagiarism-paraphrasing>



# MISREPRESENTING SOURCES

Rue has to write a 6-page paper for her Astronomy 101 course. The teacher asked the students to use at least 8 academic sources as references for this paper. Rue only had time to read through 3 sources on her topic. To meet the requirement, she quickly finds 5 additional sources and lists them on her references page, even though she didn't read them or use information from them in her paper.

- Fabricating, falsifying, or misrepresenting data or sources for papers is not allowed.



# UNACCEPTABLE EXTERNAL HELP

In his computer science class, Kei has been struggling with learning how to program in C++. His textbook is helpful, but he is still confused about several key concepts. To help him finish a coding project, he copied a big chunk of codes from an online source only tweaked parts of the codes and used them in his project report.

- Give credit to the sources, even if one has changed some parts.

# PAPERS SUBMITTED TO MULTIPLE CLASSES

In her English 212 course, Veronica receives an assignment to write a research paper on a topic of her choice. Since she is also writing a research paper on the American Civil War for her history class, she decides to turn in the same paper in both classes. Veronica doesn't ask her professors for permission, since the paper is her own original work and it fulfills the requirements in both classes.

- Papers cannot be turned in for credit in multiple classes (unless both professors have given written permission).



# **STRATEGIES TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS ACADEMIC INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS**



# REASONS FOR AI VIOLATIONS

- Academic pressures
- Poor planning/preparation
- Excessive workload
- Cultural background
- Ineffective communication/instruction
- Opportunity
- Prominent bad examples



# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- Syllabus: Setting the tone

## Syllabus Language

### **Suggested Syllabus Statement on Academic Integrity**

“Syracuse University’s Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about course-specific expectations, as well as about university policy. The university policy governs appropriate citation and use of sources, the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments, and the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verification of participation in class activities. The policy also prohibits students from submitting the same written work in more than one class without receiving written authorization in advance from both instructors. The presumptive penalty for a first offense by an undergraduate student is course failure, accompanied by a transcript notation indicating that the failure resulted from a violation of Academic Integrity Policy. The standard sanction for a first offense by a graduate student is suspension or expulsion. For more information and the complete policy, see <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>.”

# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- Syllabus: Clearly outlining policy

**Example 1:** From Spring 2012 18.03 Differential Equations Course Info document:  
(used with permission of Professor Haynes Miller, Dept of Mathematics)

**Example 2:** From Spring 2012 18.02 Calculus Course Info document:  
(used with permission of Professor Gigliola Staffilani, Dept of Mathematics.)

## Cooperation policy:

**You should not expect to be able to solve every single problem on your own; instead, you are encouraged to discuss questions with each other** or to come to office hours. If you meet with a study group, you may find it helpful to do as many problems as you can on your own beforehand. **But write-ups must be done independently.** (In practice, this means that it is OK for other people to explain their solutions to you, but you must not be looking at other people's solutions as you write your own.)...

## Problem Sets: At the top of each assignment should appear...

**Either the text "Sources consulted: none" or a list of all sources consulted** other than the main textbook, supplementary notes, and your own notes from lecture and recitation. This is required. (Examples of things that should be listed if used: office hours, names of study group partners, OCW archive, Wikipedia, Piazza, etc.)

# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

## ➤ Filling in the knowledge gap

### Cite

Copy and paste a formatted citation or use one of the links to import into a bibliography manager.

MLA Wolff, Edward N. *Top heavy: A study of the increasing inequality of wealth in America*. New York: Twentieth Century Fund Press, 1995.

APA Wolff, E. N. (1995). *Top heavy: A study of the increasing inequality of wealth in America* (pp. 7-13). New York: Twentieth Century Fund Press.

Chicago Wolff, Edward N. *Top heavy: A study of the increasing inequality of wealth in America*. New York: Twentieth Century Fund Press, 1995.





# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

## Conversation!

- Make clear to your students why academic integrity is important
- Discuss your expectations, and describe ways you can help them avoid unintentional violations
- Make clear what punitive actions might follow a violation



# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

➤ Refer students to other resources:

- Libraries
- Writing Center
- Tutoring Center
- AI Office



# PREVENTIVE MEASURE CONT...

- Counseling Center  
200 Walnut Place  
(315) 443-4715
- Student Assistance  
306 Steele Hall  
(315) 443-4357
- SU Libraries Subject Librarians
- The Writing Center  
101 H.B. Crouse Hall  
(315) 443-5289

# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

English (United States)

Create Account

Log In



Features

Resources

Customers

Training

Support

About

Overview

Originality Check

Online Grading

Peer Review

iPad

Integrations

What's New

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### Ensure Originality

Check students' work for potential plagiarism by comparing it against the world's largest comparison database.



### Smarter Grading

Give students legible, timely feedback while saving instructors grading time.

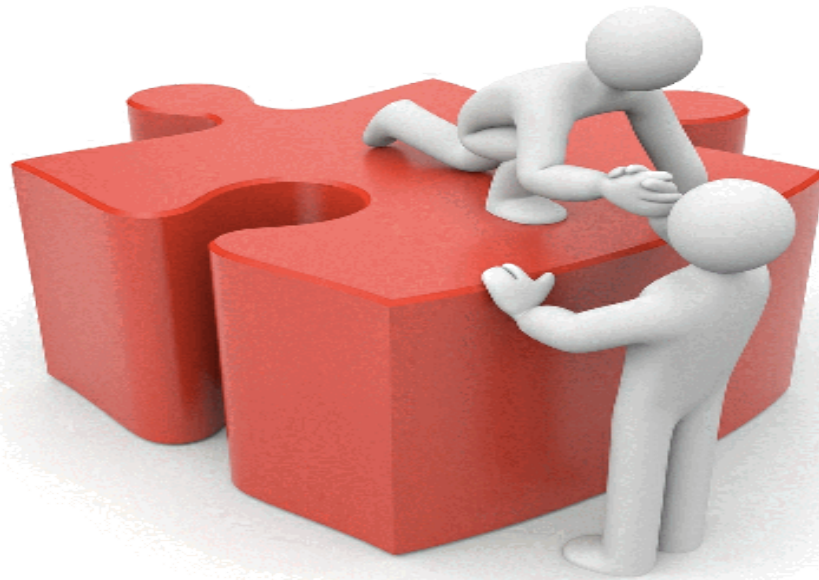


### Streamline Peer Reviews

Simplify one of the most valuable--yet cumbersome--feedback processes.

# PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Offering alternatives/support mechanism



# PREVENTIVE MEASURES – EXAMS/QUIZZES

## Proctoring

- Reminder
- Put away materials/devices
- Take off cap
- Different exam versions
- Sit away from each other



# REACTIVE MEASURES

Before the semester begins, speak with the faculty member with whom you are working about their expectations. How do they typically handle academic integrity violations? Do they want you involved, and how, and when? Be sure you know your role, and have a plan in place!



# REACTIVE MEASURES

## Assessment

- Intent
- Evidence
- Negligence



# REACTIVE MEASURES

- Reporting
- Formal Protocol
- AI hearing



The screenshot shows the MYSlice Syracuse University interface. At the top, the MYSlice logo is displayed in orange and white. Below the logo is a navigation bar with the following items: Favorites, Main Menu, MySlice Services, Faculty Services, Faculty Services, and Academic Integrity - New Case. The page title is "Academic Integrity - New Case". Below the title, there is a paragraph of text: "Click 'View Instructor Guidelines' to begin. The Guidelines will open in a separate tab and remain visible during case creation." At the bottom of the page, there are two yellow buttons: "View Instructor Guidelines" and "Create a new Academic Integrity Case".



# REACTIVE MEASURES

- Common punitive measures for students
  - Re-do the assignment with a reduced grade
  - Reduced grade
  - Zero on the assignment
  - Fail the course
  - Disciplinary record
  - Expulsion from school

# REACTIVE MEASURES

Some notes on best practice...



# OTHER ASPECTS OF AI

- Human/animal subject research – IRB approval

**OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH INTEGRITY AND PROTECTIONS**



Human Research (IRB)

Home » Human Research (IRB)

» Audits

**INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)**

# CAMPUS RESOURCES

- AI Office

## **Academic Integrity Office**

Margaret L. Usdansky, Director

Janine Jarvis, Program Coordinator

548 E.S. Bird Library

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