

Academic Honesty Overview



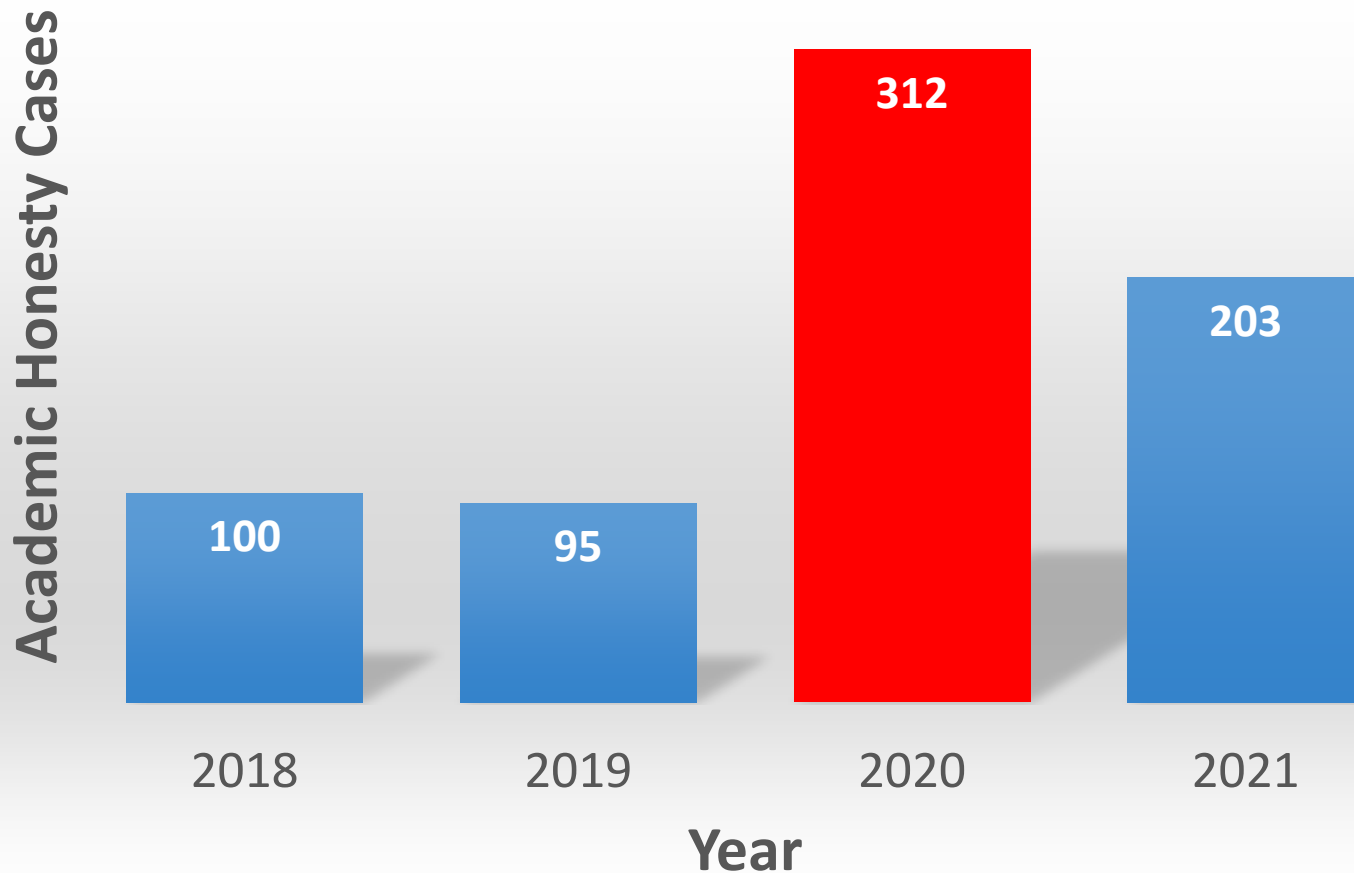
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Success

Outline

- NSM Data
- Promoting Academic Honesty
- Violation Examples
- What would you Do? Activity
- Academic Honesty Process
- Department/College Contact
- Resources

Academic Honesty Cases in NSM



What is Academic Honesty/Integrity

- Academic Honesty - performing and upholding the ethical standards for all academic work without violating any policies/procedures that govern the academic process

Why is Academic Honesty Important?

Important for Faculty and Students

- Uphold integrity of the institution which bear directly on the value of conferred degrees
- The [UH Academic Honesty Policy](#) is designed to handle those instances with fairness to all parties involved: the students, the instructors, and the University itself.

All UH students and faculty are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Honesty Policy.

Promoting Academic Honesty

- Plan the class so it will be engaging to students
- Ensure that what is covered in class is appropriate for preparing students for exams and assignments
- Take security precautions in the preparing/handling exams
- Structure exams to discourage dishonesty
 - Unique exams each semester
 - Space students - reserve larger classroom if possible
 - Multiple versions of exams
- Monitor exams to ensure fairness, i.e., use TA(s) if necessary

Promoting Academic Honesty

- Clearly state all rules/policies for exams, homework, etc.
 - **Include rules/policies on the syllabus**, especially concerning the use of online sources and electronic devices
 - **Include an honor code or link to the [NSM Honor Code](#) on the syllabus**
 - This will help raise awareness of academic honesty policies
 - **Include an academic honesty statement on exams/assignments** that the student must read, acknowledge and agree to or ask students to write a short honor pledge in their own words on the exam/assignment and sign it.
 - **Avoid syllabus language like “If you cheat you will fail this course”** - gives the impression that all violations receive the same sanction
 - **Give examples of what constitutes academic dishonesty**, particularly in classes where group activities (lab/field reports, etc.) are part of the instructional process.

Promoting Academic Honesty

- Require students to show a picture ID for major assignments and exams; especially for large courses where you or the TA may not know each students

Violation Examples

- *Plagiarism*
- *Cheating and Unauthorized Group Work*
- *Fabrication, Falsification, and Misrepresentation*
- *Stealing and Abuse of Academic Materials*
- *Complicity in Academic Dishonesty*
- *Academic Misconduct*

[UH Academic Honesty Policy - Article 3](#)



**What
would
YOU
DO**?

What would you do?

Example 1: The TA is grading exams for your course and notice that several students have identical correct responses which uses a notation not used in the course. You suspect they may have copied, shared or use the same third party source for obtaining their solution. How do you proceed?

What would you do?

Example 2: You determine that several of the exam questions/answers were posted on a third party site, i.e., Chegg, Course Hero, etc., during the exam. What would you do?

What would you do?

Example 3: The instructor determined, after running lab reports through TurnItIn, that a large number of students have answers for items on the lab report that match the unique wording of a solution found on a third party source. In the next class meeting, the instructor announces to the class that students who want to admit to cheating should email them and they will receive a lesser sanction than students who do not, as the students who do not confess will be brought up on academic honesty violations through the Department process and will receive a severe sanction. Discuss your thoughts on this approach.

What would you do?

Example 4: A student reports to you that they saw several students sharing answers to multiple choice questions during the exam. The student does not know the names of the students. What would you do?

What you should not do!

- Confront the student and give a warning
- Confront student and apply a sanction without utilizing the Academic Hearing Process
- Do in depth investigations to find a student(s) in violation
- Suggest/apply sanctions that are not in alignment with the violation

Utilize the Academic Honesty Process

- Protects both the student and instructor
- Student/instructor have the process of appeals if they are not satisfied with outcomes at each level
- If multiple students are involved, cases can be combined

Academic Honesty Process

- Instructors Role
- Waiver of Department Hearing
- Departmental Hearing Process
- College Hearing Process

Note: DHO - Department Hearing Officer
CHO - College Hearing Officer

Information Instructor sends to DHO

- Relevant evidence that supports the alleged violation
 - Documentation, i.e., exam/assignment, emails, etc.
 - Video evidence, i.e., from CASA or Respondus Monitoring
 - Statements from witnesses or individuals with knowledge about the alleged violation
- Carefully consider and suggest an appropriate sanction which should be commensurate with the violation, i.e., a lowered grade, failure on the exam or assignment, failure in the course, probation, suspension or expulsion from UH, or a combination of these.

Academic Honesty Process

- [Instructors Role](#)
- [Waiver of Department Hearing](#)
- [Departmental Hearing Process](#)
- [College Hearing Process](#)

Department/College Hearing Officers

Department	Hearing Officer
Biology/Biochemistry	Tony Frankino
Chemistry	Arkadiusz Czader
Computer Science	Edgar Gabriel
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	Jinny Sisson
Math	Cathy Poliak
Physics	Lisa Koerner
College	Hearing Officer
NSM	Donna Stokes



Resources

- [UH Academic Honesty Policy](#)
- [UH Resources](#)
- [The 10 Biggest Cheating Scandals](#)



Go Coogs!