

Academic Honesty : Arts, Sciences & Engineering : University of Rochester

 rochester.edu/college/honesty/quiz2.html

Quiz #2

Questions

1. You are working on a computer lab at a public work station. You finish your work, save it to your thumb drive and leave, forgetting to delete your work from the work station. Another student in your class comes along, finds your file and turns it in as her own. Are you responsible for academic dishonesty?
2. You are taking a mid-term in a large lecture room and some notes that you brought with you slide out from under the seat where you had stowed them. Can you be charged with academic dishonesty?
3. You ask your instructor whether she would be willing to read a draft of an essay that is due in a week. Your essay contains paraphrases of secondary sources that you used in your essay but haven't marked yet as the ideas of other people. You figure this is okay, since this is a draft of the essay and not the final copy you plan to turn in. Is this considered academic dishonesty?
4. Your instructor writes you an email stating that he believes you may have committed an act of academic dishonesty in his class. You panic and withdraw from the course. You are later called before the Board on Academic Honesty. At the hearing, you are shocked to learn that you have been reinstated in the class. Are you still responsible for finishing the class?
5. You enroll in a two-credit dance class. Besides learning different kinds of movement, you also have to write a five-page essay on a topic assigned by the instructor. You use a lot of material from the internet in your essay and don't have time to cite it properly. You figure this is okay since most of the grade is based on your dance performance. Besides, it is only a two-credit dance class and not a real academic course and the instructor didn't say anything about citation. Are you guilty of plagiarism?
6. You ask a friend, who is a good writer, to look over your paper. She is happy to help and finds many awkward phrases and ambiguous assertions, which she re-writes for you. She even develops a few new arguments to help support your thesis. You are happy because she was able to express clearly and persuasively what you had been trying to say all along. Is this academic dishonesty?

7. You need a permission code to get into a lab section. Your instructor gives you the code, which you share with a friend who wants to be in the same section. Can you be charged with academic dishonesty?
8. You notice that a paper assignment in your class is just like one you wrote for another class. You change the cover sheet and a few sentences in the introduction and turn it in. This is okay because it is your own work, right?
9. Your instructor allows collaboration on homework assignments and encourages study groups but still expects you to do your own work. You and two friends discuss the problem and work through it together. Portions of your final work are identical, but that should be okay, since most of the work is your own. Can you be charged with academic dishonesty?
10. You are shocked to see that you received a failing grade in your literature class. You thought you were doing quite well and had a "B" average for the class. When you contact your instructor to find out why you failed, he confronts you with evidence that you plagiarized portions of your last essay. "Any student who plagiarizes in my class, fails," he tells you. "No exceptions." Is that the end of the matter?
11. A good friend of yours is desperate. He is in danger of failing the biology class you are both in. If he fails, he will be placed on academic probation. He knows you are an excellent student and asks you to sit at the next exam in such a way that he can see your answers. It's the only way he'll pass the class. His request makes you uncomfortable, but, since you're not the one copying answers, you figure you will not be charged with academic dishonesty. Are you right?
12. You are in an advanced language class and are stumped trying to write a composition so you write some sentences in English and use an automatic translation program on the internet to help you out. This is okay, since it's like using a dictionary, and the instructor said dictionaries were allowed. Is that academically honest?

Answer Key

1. **Possibly.** Students have the responsibility of protecting their work from being used dishonestly. If another student makes use of your work even without your knowledge, you may still bear some responsibility for inadvertently helping another student to cheat. Your responsibility or exoneration would depend on how negligent you were about protecting your work. Certainly, if a student goes to great lengths to steal your work despite all reasonable precautions taken by you, you would not be found responsible for aiding a dishonest act. However, you should always keep your work to yourself as much as possible. Lending a friend a paper so that he can use it as a guide to writing his own, for instance, may implicate you in academic dishonesty if your

friend uses your ideas, phrases or passages in his paper, even if you never encouraged him to do so. It is never wise to share your work with others when collaboration is not allowed, and it is a violation of the Policy to share completed assignments in a form that can be copied.

2. **Yes.** Improper storage of prohibited notes, course materials and study aids during an exam such that they are accessible or possible to view is a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy. Always make sure that any notes or study aids that you bring to an exam are safely stowed away in closed bags kept well out of view.
3. **Yes.** You are responsible for correctly citing all ideas, phrases and passages taken from other authors wherever they occur in your work, even in drafts of your papers. Failure to do so is plagiarism, a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy.
4. **Yes, in almost all instances.** Once a charge of academic dishonesty has been brought, you must remain enrolled in the class unless the case is resolved in one of the following two ways. 1) If you have signed an Instructor Resolution Warning Letter offered by your instructor, you may drop or withdraw from the course once the Warning Letter has been approved by the Board on Academic Honesty. 2) If you are exonerated by the Board after a hearing, then you may drop or withdraw from the course. If you withdraw before your case is resolved or after you are found responsible under either the Instructor Resolution with Penalty process or Board Resolution process, you will be reinstated in the class. No matter how difficult it is to stay in a course in which the professor has accused you of dishonesty, you must continue to attend class and fulfill all class obligations.
5. **Yes.** You are responsible for correctly citing all ideas, phrases and passages taken from other authors wherever they occur in your work, even in drafts of your papers. Failure to do so is plagiarism, a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy.
6. **Yes.** It is a good idea to have others proofread your work to identify mistakes in spelling, punctuation, syntax and style, unless such proofreading is expressly prohibited. But you are being dishonest for claiming authorship of any content added by your friend. Your instructor would have every right to turn you over to the board if she suspects that you received unauthorized aid in fulfilling the assignment.
7. **Yes.** Sharing permission codes with other students is the same as forging signatures or falsifying information on official academic documents such as drop/add forms, petitions, letters of permission, or any other official University document and is a violation of the honesty policy.
8. **No.** This is called “duplicate submission.” Students are expected to produce original work for all of their classes. Turning in an essay written for a different class is

dishonest not only because you are misrepresenting it as work done for this class, but also because you have received a grade and critical input from your former instructor, thus giving you an unfair advantage over your classmates. Many times, however, you can use a former assignment as the basis for a new one. Confer with your instructor, show her the paper and discuss how you might develop the work in a way that can satisfy class requirements. It is ultimately your instructor's decision whether it is appropriate to use work done in a different class for her course.

9. **Yes.** In classes where collaboration on graded assignments is allowed, you must still do your own work. Always make sure you understand the extent of collaboration your instructor allows. If you are not sure, ask your instructor for clarification. Most instructors do not allow students to turn in identical work or assignments that contain identical work.
10. **No.** No faculty member can punish you for alleged dishonesty without following the procedures outlined in the Academic Honesty Policy. The instructor can follow the Instructor Resolution With Penalty process by presenting you with the evidence of dishonesty, suggesting a penalty, referring you to the Academic Honesty Policy and allowing you up to 48 hours to accept the penalty. Or he can turn the case over to the board for a hearing in a Board Resolution. He cannot punish you on his own. In a similar vein, no faculty member can "give you a break" and overlook an instance of academic dishonesty, as all university faculty and staff are obligated to report cases of suspected dishonesty to the board.
11. **No.** This is called "facilitating academic dishonesty" and includes aiding another person in an act that violates the standards of academic honesty; allowing other students to look at one's own work during an exam or in an assignment where collaboration is not allowed; providing information, material, or assistance to another person in violation of course, departmental, or college academic honesty policies; and providing false information in connection with any academic honesty inquiry.
12. **No.** Using automatic translation programs is the same as getting a friend to do your work for you and is dishonest.