

Academic Honesty

What it is
What SCC says about it
How to avoid it

What is Academic Honesty

- According to Lipson, academic honesty is:
 - Do all of your own academic work yourself.
 - Cite and reference information borrowed from someone else.
 - Report researched information accurately and without personal bias.

What does academic dishonesty mean?

- Copying from someone else's test and representing it as your own
- Submitting someone else's work as your own
- Submitting the same assignment done for an earlier course to a current course you are in
- Altering a grade

What does academic dishonesty mean (Cont.)

- Cheating during an exam
- Having someone take an exam for you
- Plagiarizing someone's work
- Allowing other students to copy and turn in work you did as their own
- Lying to your instructors
- Submitting essays and research papers bought from a paper mill

What happens at SCC if you are dishonest?

- Failing grade on a test
- Lowered course grade
- Failing course grade
- Disciplinary probation
- Suspension or even expulsion from the college

Why are students dishonest

- They may be:
 - Overloaded with coursework and other obligations
 - Rushed
 - Desperate
 - Ignorant of what constitutes academic dishonesty

How to avoid academic dishonesty

- Rushed/Desperate/Overloaded
 - Evaluate how many units you can reasonably take and still do a good job
 - Practice good time management: sacrifice to find a proper amount of time to study for tests and write papers
 - Use all of the college resources to help you be a good student

How to avoid academic dishonesty (Cont.)

- Ignorance
 - Be aware of what's in your instructor's syllabus about academic honesty
 - Be aware of what the college will do if you are caught being academically dishonest
 - Learn how not to be dishonest inadvertently
 - Ignorance of the rules is no excuse

How to avoid academic dishonesty (Cont.)

- Learn how not to plagiarize someone else's work:
 - Proper internal citations
 - Proper paraphrasing and summarizing
 - Proper quotations
 - Proper citation of reference page
 - Proper representation of information found in an Internet source

How to avoid academic dishonesty (Cont.)

- Talk with your instructors
 - Find out instructor's research reporting requirements
 - Ask which research documentation style he or she prefers and which edition:
 - APA, MLA, Chicago Manual of Style, CBE: Council of Biology Editors, etc.

How to avoid academic dishonesty (Cont.)

- Use college resources
 - Take library courses to help with research:
 - Library 318: Research and Information Literacy
 - Library 320: Internet Research Skills
 - Library 325: Intro to Internet and Searching Strategies

How to avoid academic dishonesty (Cont.)

- Find out which documentation style is preferred in your major and learn how to use it
- Purchase your own copy of the documentation style manual for your major and check with the publisher's website for changes and updates
- Practice, practice, practice!

How to avoid academic dishonesty (Cont.)

- Read and study the documentation style of journals in your major
- Use those journals as models for your own writing—if it is ok with your instructors

Confidence, Integrity and Satisfaction

- Trust in yourself: You can learn how to avoid academic dishonesty
- Maintain high personal standards
- Know that the fruits of your honest labor will be worth more than the satisfaction of getting over with an instructor
