Six Pillars of Academic Integrity

HONESTY - Begins with individuals and extends out into the larger community. As students and faculty seek knowledge, they must be honest with themselves and with each other. Cultivating and practicing honesty lays a foundation for lifelong integrity.

Honesty is actualized by:

- Being truthful
- Giving credit to the owner of the work (i.e., musician, author, artist, speaker etc.)
- Keeping promises
- Providing factual evidence
- Aspiring to objectivity, consider all sides and one's own potential preconceptions

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Six Pillars of Academic Integrity

TRUST - Trust enables collaboration, shared information, and the circulation of new ideas freely, without fear. Trust is reciprocal: being worthy of others’ trust and allowing oneself to trust others go hand-in-hand. Students promote trust by preparing work that is honest, thoughtful, and genuine. Faculty promote trust by setting clear guidelines for assignments and for evaluating student work in an equitable, timely, and forthright manner.

Trust is actualized by:

- Clearly stating expectations and follow through
- Promoting transparency in values, processes, and outcomes
- Trusting others
- Giving credence
- Encouraging mutual understanding
- Acting with genuineness

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FAIRNESS - Students engage in fairness by doing their own original work, acknowledging borrowed work appropriately, respecting and upholding academic integrity policies, and by maintaining the good reputation of the institution.

Fairness is actualized by:

- Engaging with others equitably
- Keeping an open-mind
- Being objective
- Taking responsibility for your own actions

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RESPECT

- Respect is reciprocal and requires showing respect for oneself as well as others. Respect means tackling challenges without compromising your own values. Respect for others means valuing the diversity of opinions and appreciating the need to challenge, test, and refine ideas. Students show respect when they value and take advantage of opportunities to gain new knowledge by taking an active role in their own education, contributing to discussions, actively listening to other points of view, and performing to the best of their ability.

Respect is actualized by:

- Practicing active listening
- Receiving feedback willingly
- Accepting that others' thoughts and ideas have validity
- Showing empathy
- Seeking open communication
- Affirming others and accept differences
- Recognizing the consequences of our words and actions on others

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RESPONSIBILITY

- Being responsible means standing up against wrongdoing, resisting negative peer pressure, and serving as a positive example. Responsible individuals hold themselves accountable for their own actions and work to discourage and prevent misconduct by others.

Responsibility is actualized by:

- Holding yourself accountable for your actions
- Engaging with others in difficult conversations, even when silence might be easier
- Knowing and following institutional rules and conduct codes
- Creating, understanding, and respecting personal boundaries
- Following through with tasks and expectations
- Modeling good behavior

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COURAGE - Courage is the capacity to act in accordance with one’s values despite fear. Being courageous means acting in accordance with one’s convictions. Students who exhibit courage hold themselves and their fellow learners to the highest standards of academic integrity even when doing so involves risk of negative consequences, such as a bad grade, or reprisal from their peers or others.

Courage is actualized by:

- Being brave even when others might not
- Taking a stand to address a wrongdoing and support others doing the same
- Enduring discomfort for something you believe in
- Being undaunted in defending integrity
- Being willing to take risk and risk failure

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