

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND DISRUPTIVE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

As faculty, your efforts to deter academic dishonesty and disruptive classroom behavior by being diligent in responding to these types of incidents is crucial in curbing these inappropriate behaviors. The *Code of Student Responsibility* lists 31 categories of offenses, including two which directly relate to classroom behavior.

Section 574-031-030 (1) pertains to academic dishonesty:

574-031-0030

Academic dishonesty, which includes but is not limited to:

- (a) Cheating - intentional use, or attempted use of artifice, deception, fraud, and/or misrepresentation of one's academic work;
- (b) Fabrication - unauthorized falsification and/or invention of any information or citation in any academic exercise;
- (c) Facilitating dishonesty - helping or attempting to help another person commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes students who substitute for other persons in examinations or represent as their own papers, reports, or any other academic work of others;
- (d) Plagiarism - representing without giving credit the words, data, or ideas of another person as one's own work in any academic exercise. This includes submitting, in whole or in part, prewritten term papers of another or the research of another, including but not limited to the product of commercial vendors who sell or distribute such materials, and the appropriation and/or use of electronic data of another person or persons as one's own, or using such data without giving proper credit for it; or
- (e) Any use or attempted use of electronic devices in gaining an illegal advantage in academic work in which the use of these devices is prohibited, and such devices include but are not limited to cell phones, PDAs, laptops, programmable calculators, removable disk drives, etc.

and section 574-031-0030 (15) pertains to classroom disruption as defined:

Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, judicial procedures, or other institutional activities, including the institution's public service functions, other authorized activities, or University sponsored off-campus events.

GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW IF YOU SUSPECT ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

In order to ensure protection and due process fairness for students and faculty and to avoid future litigation, it is important to follow established procedures in cases where academic dishonesty is suspected.

1. If you suspect academic dishonesty, please contact Judicial Affairs at 88930 or judicial@wou.edu to find out if previous incidents of academic dishonesty have occurred with this student.
2. Notify your department chair or dean of the incident and talk to the student as soon as possible.
3. Inform the student of your reasons for believing that he or she has committed academic dishonesty and listen to the student's explanation of the incident.

4. Inform the student of the option of referring the case directly to the Student Judicial Program (this is an option you have as well).
5. If the student **admits** the academic dishonesty, you may impose, within the context of your course in which the incident originated, an appropriate academic sanction. An acceptable outcome for a single instance of academic dishonesty is usually a failing grade on the assignment in question.
6. Written notice of the sanction (or resolution without sanction) must be given to the student, to your department chair or dean, and to the Dean of Students so we have a record should there be another incident involving the same student in a different class.
7. If the student **denies** the allegations and you are not satisfied with his or her story, then **the case should be referred to the Student Judicial Program**. Do not assign a grade to the student until the case has been resolved. Assign a temporary grade of "I." The referral must be sent within two weeks of your conference with the student or it can be dismissed for not following due process guidelines.
8. If the student is found in violation through the Student Judicial Program, you will be notified of the results and asked to assign whatever grade you feel is appropriate. This process protects both the due process rights of the student and the faculty's authority to assign grades. Please note that grading should be used as a punitive measure in cases of academic dishonesty only if the student admits the violation to you or is found in violation through the Student Judicial Program.