

CHEATING

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homework as it comes out and passing it off as their own.

"It's called Dumpster diving," he said "Happens all the time. Stand by the printer and just wait."

According to the University Academic Dishonesty Policy, the myriad ways of cheating fall under four distinct categories: plagiarism, fabrication, cheating and academic misconduct.

Plagiarism is defined as "the inclusion of someone else's product, words, ideas or data as one's own work."

The policy identifies fabrication as "the intentional use of information that the author has invented when he or she states or implies otherwise, or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive."

A student is guilty of cheating when he or she "misrepresents or misleadingly demonstrates that he or she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he or she has not mastered, including the giving or receiving of unauthorized help in an academic exercise."

And academic dishonesty is "the intentional violation of university policies, such as tampering with grades, or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of an unadministered test or any information about the test."

The University ensures that the student body is aware of the official policy on academic dishonesty by publishing it every term in the schedule of classes.

But even though the information is widely disseminated, many students don't realize certain practices are considered academically dishonest.

For example, submitting the same paper for multiple classes is considered a cheating offense.

Many students are also unaware that paraphrasing another author's ideas or research without citing where the information came from is unacceptable.

EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

- Copying from another student.
- Collaborating without authority or allowing another student to copy one's work in a test situation.
- Using unauthorized materials during a test.
- Resubmitting work that was produced for another assignment.
- Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone else to take a test for you.
- Citing information not taken from the source indicated.
- Inventing data or source information.
- Using another person's ideas, opinions, work, data or theories, even if they are completely paraphrased in your own words.

SOURCE: The University Policy on Academic Dishonesty

The rules on properly citing information can be especially confusing, said Drew Morse, associate director of the composition program. But there are several avenues of assistance available to help students understand how to write a research paper, such as Academic Learning Services. He added that the University's basic composition classes — Writing 121, 122 and 123 — are tailored to provide more detailed instruction to students on what constitutes academic dishonesty.

"We can't assume students come from high school to college knowing these things," Morse said. "There's a learning process there."

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