

Student Honor Code

Definition - Academic Integrity

The core of the community college's integrity is its scholastic honesty. Academic dishonesty impairs the college's educational role and defrauds all who comprise its community. Student enrollment is a voluntary entrance into the academic environment. By entrance to the College, the student voluntarily assumes obligations of performance which are imposed by the academic community relevant to its missions, processes, and functions. These obligations may be much higher than those imposed on all citizens by civil and criminal law, and the College reserves the right to discipline students to insure compliance with these higher obligations.

Since the principle behind an honor system is honesty, an effective system can exist only when each student has a sense of community responsibility and personal integrity. The College community is only as strong as its individual members.

Responsibility and Scope

Faculty members are responsible to clarify for their classes those standards of honesty for classes or activities where such standards may be unclear or when such standards vary from the accepted norm. Faculty may use a variety of measures, such as alternate seating, multiple forms of examinations, etc., to deter dishonesty. However, the use of such measures is the prerogative of the individual faculty member and is not a requirement of faculty in general. The responsibility for the maintenance of honesty rests upon the student. The responsibility accepted by the student determines the success of the honor system. Students assume responsibility not only for themselves but also for every other student. Failure to report a violation of the honor code constitutes a dishonest act and is punishable under the honor code. Personal loyalties are indeed a virtue, but if personal loyalty threatens the rights and privileges of others, the result is a weak and ineffective system. It is the student's responsibility to know the community college's policy on academic honesty and to uphold standards of academic honesty at all times in all situations.