SUBJECT

Academic Integrity

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BACKGROUND

The mission, vision and values of Northern College will be the basis for the implementation and enforcement of this policy. Northern College is committed to creating a scholarly community characterized by honesty, civility, diversity, free inquiry, mutual respect, individual safety and freedom from harassment and discrimination. All members of the college community share responsibility for upholding the academic standards and reputation of the college. Academic integrity is cornerstone to the acquisition of knowledge, founded on principles of: respect for knowledge, truth, scholarship and acting with honesty. Upholding academic integrity is a condition of continued membership in our college community. Each student is responsible for his or her conduct as it affects this college community. Academic dishonesty is unfair and discouraging to the majority of students who pursue studies honestly. Academic integrity is required of all members of the college. In keeping with AODA and Human Rights standards, Northern College will continue to support accommodations for students with accessibility needs while adhering to academic standards and in consideration of the reputation of Northern College.

POLICY

Northern College will maintain an environment of academic integrity.

DEFINITIONS

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY is a student’s acknowledgment of and respect for academic principles and behaviours that support the College’s mission.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY is any action that willfully or negligently erodes the academic integrity of an individual or an institution. (See Academic Integrity Procedure A-24-PR-1)

CHEATING is the misrepresentation by a student of his/her performance in a college/university course for the purpose of obtaining credit to which he/she is not entitled on the basis of his/her actual performance in that course. Cheating can include the use of inappropriate, unallowable, or unacknowledged materials, information, or aids in any academic work (e.g. books, notes, and calculators, and electronic technology such as email, digital cameras, camera phones, or conversations with others). (See Examples section, Academic Integrity Procedure A-24-PR-1)

COLLABORATING WITHOUT PERMISSION occurs when work required to be completed independently is produced with unauthorized assistance from others. As a student, you are expected to represent your work honestly. Each instructor will set the limits for collaboration according to the overall design of the course and the purpose of each assignment.
FACILITATING ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT is the act of knowingly or negligently allowing all or portions of one’s work to be used by other students or aiding others in committing academic misconduct.

FALSIFICATION OF DATA AND INFORMATION is the alteration or misrepresentation of data or information.

PLAGIARISM is the act of submitting material that is wholly or substantially someone else’s work and claiming it as one’s own. Students are expected to acknowledge sources of ideas, direct quotations and paraphrased materials.

SELF-PLAGIARISM is the act of reusing materials that have been wholly or substantially submitted, presented, or graded in another course, without faculty authorization (adapted from Conestoga’s Academic Integrity Policy [2012] & McMaster University Academic Integrity Policy [2002]).

RESPONSIBILITY

Administration and Staff are responsible for:

1. Creating and maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity in all phases of academic life, including teaching, learning and administration.
2. Familiarizing themselves with this policy, and acting ethically and in accordance with this policy.
3. Providing information and guidance about the nature of and penalties for academic dishonesty.
4. Investigating all alleged incidents of academic misconduct using principles of procedural fairness. Penalties for academic dishonesty will be applied progressively and/or be commensurate with the nature of the offence. Penalties include, but are not limited to: a mark of zero on an evaluation; a mark of zero in the course; non-admittance to a course or program; withdrawal from a course; dismissal from the college.

Faculty are responsible for:

1. Familiarizing themselves with this policy, and acting ethically and in accordance with this policy.
2. Clearly defining and communicating to students the nature and definition of academic misconduct including citation protocols and collaborative practices.
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3. Supporting an environment which values academic integrity in every aspect of life on campus.

4. Reporting all incidents of academic misconduct to his or her supervisor, and assisting in the investigation of alleged incidents of academic misconduct.

Students are responsible for:

1. Familiarizing themselves with this policy, and acting ethically and in accordance with this policy.
2. Supporting an environment which values academic integrity in every aspect of life on campus.
3. Reporting any incidents of academic misconduct of which they are aware.

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Northern College wishes to acknowledge the work of Durham College, Simon Fraser University, McMaster University, Brock University, Humber College, Conestoga College, and the University of California-Davis for their contributions to the development of this policy.

REFERENCES

Academic Integrity Procedure A-24-PR-1

The Academic Integrity Policy (A-24) and Procedure (A-24-PR-1) encompass the follow policy, therefore, declaring it redundant effective August 2016.

A-2 Academic Dishonesty