ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic Integrity for Quality Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Institutions in Georgia
What is academic integrity?

Academic integrity means “[c]ompliance with ethical and professional principles, standards and practices by individuals or institutions in education, research and scholarship” (Tauginiené et al., 2018, p. 7–8). While breaches of academic integrity can take diverse forms, such as copying from sources without referencing the author/s, omitting the name of a co-author or using a ghostwriter, infringements by students often have to do more with a lack of competences than with intent. Instances may result from missing knowledge about rules and standards, a lack of skill in academic writing and correct referencing as well as from a little developed culture of academic integrity. “Academic communities of integrity establish clear and transparent expectations, standards, and practices to support fairness in the interactions of students, faculty, and administrators.” (International Center for Academic Integrity, 2012, p. 22)

“Learning a distaste for plagiarism is part of learning academic values and orientations, part of the process of academic acculturation.” (Pecorari, 2013, p. 39) Thus, the importance of teachers and university staff to actively inform, advise and develop students' competences and cannot be emphasized enough (McGowan & Lightbody, 2008, p. 274)

“Integrity is not a 90 percent thing, not a 95 percent thing; either you have it or you don't.” Peter Scotese

Plagiarism

“[…] plagiarism has been traditionally defined as the taking of words, images, processes, structure and design elements, ideas, etc. of others and presenting them as one's own. It is often associated with phrases such as kidnapping of words, kidnapping of ideas, fraud, and literary theft.” (Roig, 2015, p. 3)

Academic misconduct/Unethical behaviour

“Academic dishonesty takes several forms including cheating on an examination, citing sources improperly, and plagiarizing previously written material.” (Landau et al., 2002, p. 112)

“[…] a responsible writer has an ethical responsibility to readers and to the author/s from whom s/he is borrowing, to always respect and acknowledge their intellectual content.” Roig, 2015, p. 14
“Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching” C.S. Lewis

References


“As an academic what do you have? You have the quality of your work and the integrity with which you do it.” Ekzekiel Emanuel

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