



The University of Vermont

Policy V. 2.7.8

Responsible Official: Vice  
Provost for Student Affairs

Effective Date: May 10, 2017

---

# Code of Academic Integrity

---

## Policy Statement

The University strives to provide an environment that encourages all students (undergraduate, medical, graduate, and continuing education) to learn, create, and share knowledge responsibly. As society entrusts our students and faculty to pursue knowledge and report their discoveries truthfully, any deliberate falsehood or misrepresentation undermines the stature of the University. The following standards of academic integrity are deemed necessary for fulfilling the University's mission, as well as its motto: *Studiis et Rebus Honestis* ("For honorable studies and pursuits"). These standards are also necessary for evaluating the quality of student work in a fair manner.

## Reason for the Policy

Some actions cannot be tolerated because they seriously interfere with the basic purposes and processes of an academic community or with the rights afforded other members of the community. By formulating a code of academic integrity, the University reaffirms the principle of student academic achievement coupled with personal responsibility and accountability for individual action and the consequences of that action.

## Applicability of the Policy

The standards for academic honesty and integrity established in this policy apply to all students enrolled at the University of Vermont in any work performed in furtherance of a particular course or course of study.

Students enrolled in the College of Medicine are expected to meet the standards of academic honesty established in this policy. The procedure for hearing and resolving allegations that a student in the College of Medicine has violated the standards of this policy are set forth in Rules and Regulations of the College of Medicine of the University of Vermont.

Individuals enrolled in precollege coursework through Continuing and Distance Education (i.e., Summer Academy) are expected to comply with the behavioral requirements of this Code and with any other requirements that may be established by Continuing and Distance Education.

Violations of conduct requirements by individuals enrolled in precollege coursework will be addressed through processes established by Continuing and Distance Education.

Faculty have responsibilities under this Code. All suspected deliberate violations of academic integrity (plagiarism, fabrication, collusion, or cheating) must be reported to the Center for Student Conduct within two weeks of discovery. Reports may be submitted using a web referral form: [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont&layout\\_id=2](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont&layout_id=2)

## Policy Elaboration

### General Provision

Attempts to violate or to assist others in violating this Code, including unsuccessful attempts, are prohibited and are subject to the same response under this Code as are actual violations.

### Standards

All academic work (e.g., homework assignments, written and oral reports, use of library materials, creative projects, performances, in-class and take-home exams, extra-credit projects, research, theses and dissertations) must satisfy the following four standards of academic integrity. Multiple students submitting a single assignment for academic credit are responsible for their individual contributions to the final product and for fairly contributing to the whole. Academic work submitted for credit must include original work as outlined by the instructor and course work expectations.

1. Students may not plagiarize.  
All ideas, arguments, and phrases, submitted without attribution to other sources must be the creative product of the student. Thus, all text passages taken from the works of other authors (published or unpublished) must be properly cited. The same applies to paraphrased text, opinions, data, examples, illustrations, and all other creative work. Violations of this standard constitute plagiarism.
2. Students may not fabricate.  
All experimental data, observations, interviews, statistical surveys, and other information collected and reported as part of academic work must be authentic. Any alteration, e.g., the removal of statistical outliers, must be clearly documented. Data must not be falsified in any way. Violations of this standard constitute fabrication.
3. Students may work cooperatively, but not collude.  
Students are encouraged to collaborate on academic work within any limits that may be prescribed by their instructors. Students may only provide, seek or accept information about any academic work that will be submitted for a grade, to or from another student, with the authorization of the instructor. Violations of this standard constitute collusion.
4. Students may not cheat.  
Students must adhere to the guidelines provided by their instructors for completing academic work. Students may not claim as their own work any portion of academic work that was completed by another person. Students may only use materials approved by their instructor

when completing an assignment or exam. Students may not present the same (or substantially the same) work for more than one course or within the same course without obtaining approval from the instructor of each course. Students must adhere to all course reserves regulations. Students may not act dishonestly or convey information that the student knows or should know to be false, by actions such as lying, forging or altering any document or record in order to gain an unfair academic advantage. Violations of this standard constitute cheating.

Please note: Course expectations may vary from instructor to instructor. All students have an obligation to convey a clear understanding of the expectations associated with each particular assignment and each particular course in which the student is enrolled.

### **Communicating the Standards of Academic Integrity**

The University should continuously communicate the importance of academic integrity to its students and faculty. Examples include:

1. During Orientation sessions, each student receives information about the Code of Academic Integrity.
2. Each semester the Registrar includes the Code of Academic Integrity on the “Look-Up Classes” page of myUVM. The definition of the grade of XF will appear in the University Catalogue and on each official transcript.
3. The University provides an informative web page on academic integrity, for public access, that clearly describes the standards of academic integrity, with examples of different violations.
4. Throughout the year, students are periodically sent a notice of the importance of academic integrity.
5. Deans and department chairs are encouraged to discuss the Code of Academic Integrity with faculty, including the need to report violations to the Center for Student Conduct and the fact that instructors are not authorized to apply sanctions for violations of this code.
6. Faculty are encouraged to refer to the Code of Academic Integrity on course syllabi and to discuss the standards of academic integrity and their expectations at the start of the semester in each of their courses. Advisors, student services offices, and other staff should discuss the Code with their advisees. Academic Integrity should become an integral part of University culture.
7. Faculty should encourage students to apply for membership on the Academic Integrity Council.

### **Alleged Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activities**

The Coordinator of Academic Integrity, in consultation with the Vice President for Research, will first determine whether the Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activities Policy could apply to the alleged violation. If not, the provisions of this Code will apply.

## Definitions

*Academic Dishonesty:* Failure to abide by the four standards of academic integrity stated in this Code (plagiarism, collusion, cheating, and fabrication).

*Academic Integrity Council:* A group comprised of at least one faculty and at least one student member, as well as a Center for Student Conduct staff representative serving in the role of advisor, who have been trained to serve the University as adjudicators of alleged violations of academic integrity.

*Academic Integrity Council Advisor:* A professional staff member of the University who oversees Academic Integrity hearings. The Advisor is a non-voting member of the council and writes the hearing decision letter on behalf of the Council at the conclusion of the hearing.

*Advisor:* A member of the University community (who is not a family member) chosen by a Complainant or Respondent to provide personal support through the student conduct process. An advisor must have no other role in the hearing, such as a witness, and may not speak on behalf of or otherwise represent one's advisee. An advisor may not be an attorney representing a Complainant or Respondent, although the Center for Student Conduct may permit an attorney as an advisor when related criminal charges are filed and pending. If a Respondent is allowed to have an attorney present as an advisor during a hearing, a Complainant may also have an attorney as an advisor. The Respondent and Complainant are responsible for any attorneys' fees incurred.

*Complainant:* Any student, member of the University staff, or faculty member who files an academic integrity complaint or academic integrity referral against a student(s) with the Center for Student Conduct alleging that a student(s) has performed actions that violate this Code.

*Coordinator of Academic Integrity:* A professional staff member in the Center for Student Conduct who coordinates the academic integrity process once referrals have been made. The Coordinator of Academic Integrity (or designee) may determine sanctions in a preliminary hearing meeting when a Respondent accepts responsibility for an alleged violation of this Code.

*Deliberate Violation:* A violation of this Code that involves the perceived intent to gain an unfair academic advantage.

*Instructor:* Any person responsible for the instruction or grading of a course at the university.

*Respondent:* A student against whom charges are initiated for alleged violation(s) of this Code.

*Sanction:* Any grade reduction (e.g. a lower grade on an assignment, a lower overall course grade, a zero on assignment, or a grade of XF in course) or educational assignment imposed in response to a perceived violation of this Code. **A faculty member may never impose a sanction without following the procedures of this Code.** Faculty may recommend a sanction, however, the Coordinator of Academic Integrity (or designee) or the Academic Integrity Council will make the final sanction determination.

*Seminar on Academic Integrity:* A non-credit-bearing seminar offered to students sanctioned with a grade of XF, which, if successfully completed, affords them an opportunity to have the XF converted to a standard F. This Seminar is offered by the Center for Student Conduct and teaches students the importance of academic integrity and principles of responsible scholarship.

*Student:* Any person registered for, enrolled in, or auditing any course(s) at the University of Vermont. Examples include, but are not limited to, students who are enrolled but not taking classes due to an academic break, medical leave, suspension, or other personal leave; students who were enrolled at the time of the incident; persons who demonstrate an intent to enroll by registering for courses; and students participating in study abroad programs.

*Technical Violation:* Academic conduct that allegedly rises to the level of a policy violation (as based on the four standards defined in this code) but lacks perceived intent to achieve an unfair academic advantage.

*University Official:* Any person employed by the University and acting on behalf of the University.

*Witness:* Any person who has relevant knowledge of the alleged conduct. Character witnesses are considered irrelevant and are not permitted. A person who serves as a witness may not serve in any other capacity during the hearing (e.g. advisor). Witnesses shall be present only during their own testimony.

*XF:* The grade of XF is defined as “failure resulting from academic dishonesty” on the academic transcript. The grade of XF is equivalent to the grade of F in the determination of grade-point averages and academic standing.

## **Procedures**

### **A. Reporting Violations of Academic Integrity**

Any student, member of the University staff, or faculty may report any perceived violation of this Code to the Center for Student Conduct. Upon receipt of a report from any source, the Center for Student Conduct will determine whether the report, if true, would constitute a violation of this Code. If so, then the procedures of this Code apply.

### **B. Reporting Violations that are Technical in Nature**

Technical violations are those violations that occur without any perceived intent to achieve an unfair academic advantage. An instructor may not impose any sanction for a suspected violation, whether technical or not. However, an instructor may report a suspected technical violation to the Center for Student Conduct.

The Coordinator of Academic Integrity will send a follow-up letter to the student, establishing communication and acknowledging the referral of the technical violation. Teaching assistants and proctors must report observed violations, including technical violations, to their faculty supervisors.

### C. Reporting Violations that are Deliberate in Nature

All suspected deliberate violations of academic integrity (plagiarism, fabrication, collusion, or cheating) must be reported to the Center for Student Conduct within two weeks of discovery.

Reports may be submitted using a web referral form:

[https://publicdocs.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont&layout\\_id=2](https://publicdocs.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont&layout_id=2). The instructor is also encouraged to provide a copy of the report to each implicated student. The instructor must submit all evidence and relevant information to the Center for Student Conduct.

In submitting the report, the instructor may recommend a sanction. (Please see below for a list of appropriate sanctions and their descriptions.) The recommended sanction will be taken into consideration. However, the Coordinator of Academic Integrity (or designee) or the Academic Integrity Council will make the final sanction determination.

Students have a right to a hearing when accused of deliberately violating the Code. In a case in which a student believes that an instructor has imposed a sanction without following the Center for Student Conduct referral procedures outlined in this Code, the aggrieved student may refer the matter to the Dean of the relevant School/College on the grounds that the procedure was not followed. If a student notifies the Center for Student Conduct that a faculty member imposed a sanction in violation of this Code, the Center for Student Conduct will alert that Dean's office in the relevant School/College and refer the student to the Dean of the relevant School/College. The student must notify either the Dean or the Center for Student Conduct within two weeks of discovery. The aggrieved student's right to refer the matter to the Dean of the relevant School/College is applicable to any type of assignment.

The Dean or Designee will adjudicate only whether or not the faculty member has violated this Code by applying a sanction. Similar to the process for a grade appeal:

- 1) The student must prepare a written statement explaining why the student believes that the sanction violates this Code and should be referred to the Center for Student Conduct for a hearing. The student should include any documentation that may support this position.
- 2) After reviewing the student's statement, the Dean or Designee may discuss the matter with the student, the instructor and/or the Chair. The Dean or Designee can also invite the instructor to submit a statement. The Dean or Designee shall consider both statements, and may seek input from the student and/or the instructor, and advice from the Department Chair. The Dean or Designee may also decide to hold a meeting at which both the student and instructor can respond to the other's written statements, and to any questions the Dean or Designee wishes to pose to them.
- 3) If the Dean or Designee determines that the referral process outlined in this Code should have been followed by the faculty member and was not, the Dean or Designee will refer the student's case to the Center for Student Conduct for further review.
- 4) If the Dean determines that the faculty member did not violate this Code, the student may not appeal the grade further.

Note: In all meetings with the instructor and the relevant Chair or Dean, the student may bring an Advisor of their choice.

The Dean or Designee is responsible for gathering information related to the perceived violation of this Code by faculty. In cases where it is determined that a violation of the Code has occurred, it is the responsibility of the Dean or Designee to ensure that the grade is restored until the outcome and sanction is determined by the Academic integrity Process. In all cases where students allege a violation of this Code, the Dean or Designee must provide a written summary and decision.

#### **D. Correspondence from The Center for Student Conduct**

All correspondence, including notice of the hearing date, time and location as well as decision letters and appeals correspondence, shall be communicated via e-mail to each individual's official University e-mail address.

#### **E. Notice of Charge**

After receiving the report and supporting documentation, the Coordinator of Academic Integrity (the "Coordinator") or designee will promptly notify the accused student (the "Respondent") of the alleged violations in writing (the "Charge"). The Charge will state what portion of this Code was allegedly violated. The Charge will also include a date for a meeting with the Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee.

#### **F. Pre-Hearing Disposition of a Charge**

The Coordinator or designee will meet with the Respondent to discuss the incident, and the Respondent will have an opportunity to resolve the matter at this meeting. The Respondent may sign an agreement (the "Pre-Hearing Waiver") by which the Respondent elects to accept responsibility for all Code violations in lieu of proceeding to a formal academic integrity hearing. If a pre-hearing waiver is signed, the Respondent will be accepting responsibility for the violations listed in the pre-hearing notice of charge and will be required to complete the sanctions as outlined by the Coordinator. Students, who accept responsibility by signing the pre-hearing waiver, waive the right to appeal. The Respondent will receive a follow-up letter summarizing the discussion and the sanctions imposed. The Faculty member will also receive a copy of this letter. The letter and signed pre-hearing waiver will become part of the Respondent's academic integrity file. Failure of the student to complete assigned sanctions may result in further disciplinary action.

If a Respondent does not accept responsibility for the alleged violations by signing the pre-hearing waiver form, or wishes to contest the alleged violations, or does not accept the sanctions, an academic integrity hearing will be scheduled. Another hearing notice of the alleged violations in writing (the "Notice of Charge") will be sent. The Notice of Charge will state what conduct is alleged to have occurred and the standard(s) of the Code which was allegedly violated. The Notice of Charge letter will include a date for a hearing with an Academic Integrity Council.

# The Process

## 1. Preliminary Provisions

- a. **Academic Integrity Council.** When a case of alleged violation of the Code proceeds to a hearing, the Coordinator will appoint an Academic Integrity Council to hear the case and set a hearing date and time. Date, time and place of the hearing will be provided in writing via their university email accounts to both the Complainant and Respondent.
- b. **Impartial Adjudicator.** Academic Integrity Council members shall remove themselves from hearing a case if they believe that they cannot be impartial. During the hearing, the Respondent will be given the right to object to a particular Council member if they believe that the Council member cannot be impartial. The Academic Integrity Council Advisor shall determine whether the Council member will continue to serve.
- c. **Scheduling Hearings.** The Center for Student Conduct will schedule hearings as expeditiously as possible. The University may, due to an administrative need, hold a preliminary meeting or a hearing during a vacation period. If the Respondent fails to attend the hearing, the hearing will proceed and a finding will be reached based upon available evidence. Failure of the Respondent to appear will not be considered evidence of responsibility. If the Respondent withdraws from the University or the particular course, drops the course, or changes sections of the course prior to adjudication of the case, the case will still be resolved through the process outlined in this code.
- d. **Advisors.** The Respondent and Complainant may each bring an advisor (as defined in the definitions section of this Code) to the hearing. The Respondent and Complainant must notify the Coordinator of Academic Integrity at least twenty-four hours in advance of the hearing of their intent to have an advisor and the advisor's name.
- e. **Witnesses and Witness Lists.** The Respondent and Complainant must submit a list of witnesses to the Coordinator of Academic Integrity no later than 24 hours before the hearing. The list should include each witness's name and a summary of the witness's expected testimony. It is the Respondent's and Complainant's responsibility to bring their witnesses to the hearing at the scheduled date and time. The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee may also request the presence of any University Official as a witness. In such cases, the identity of the witness shall be provided to the Complainant and Respondent.
- f. **Documents to be Presented.** The determination of admission of any documents is reserved for the Academic Integrity Council. Upon review of the documents, the Council may exclude any evidence deemed not relevant to a fair consideration of the charges. The Council may exclude any document not submitted within 24 hours of the scheduled Council Hearing. Such documents will only be admitted upon a showing of good cause as to why they were not available for timely submission.
- g. **Multiple Respondents.** If an incident results in more than one student being charged with violating the Code, the Coordinator of Academic Integrity may request that the



hearings be combined. A student may request a separate hearing, which will only be granted for good cause shown.

**h. University Breaks.** The Center for Student Conduct reserves the right to proceed with a case with a council comprised of the minimum required council members during a University break. In cases where it is possible to hear a case following the completion of the break, the respondent may be offered the option to proceed with the hearing during the break period with the minimum required participation of council members. Alternatively, the respondent may choose to postpone the hearing until a full council can be assembled. To proceed during a University break, council members may include University administrators with a faculty appointment or who have served as faculty.

**2. Miscellaneous.** The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee may modify any deadline for good cause. If the Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee believes a case can be resolved via an alternative resolution process (e.g., conflict coaching, mediation, facilitated dialogue or a restorative practice), that option will be explored as a possibility.

### **3. Hearing Procedures**

**a. Closed Hearing.** All proceedings are closed, except that the instructor who reported the alleged violation may attend. The Complainant and Respondent and their advisors may be present throughout the hearing. Witnesses shall be present only during their own testimony.

**b. Hearing Record.** Hearings are not recorded; the decision letter serves as documentation of the evidence presented and decision reached. The hearing record consists of copies of written documentation and a witness list, if applicable.

**c. Maintaining Order.** The Academic Integrity Council Advisor is responsible for maintaining order during the hearing and may take all steps reasonably necessary to ensure an orderly hearing.

**d. Presenting Testimony and Questioning Witnesses.** The Coordinator of Academic Integrity will provide the case material. The Respondent and Complainant will have an opportunity to present relevant information and witnesses in response to and in support of the Charge. The Respondent and Complainant will have the opportunity to examine and respond to all relevant information. The Academic Integrity Council may question witnesses. The Respondent and Complainant may not question witnesses directly, but may submit questions to the Academic Integrity Council, who will decide which, if any, of the questions to ask witnesses.

**e. Evidence.** The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee may request or introduce relevant documents or reports. The Academic Integrity Council will decide whether to admit evidence. Generally, the Academic Integrity Council will agree to hear evidence that is relevant to the subject matter of the hearing and is fair and reliable under the circumstances of the case. Any information coming from an anonymous source will not be considered relevant.

- f. **Adjudicatory Standard.** The Academic Integrity Council will determine whether the Respondent is "responsible" or "not responsible" for the alleged violation(s). The Respondent will be presumed "not responsible" until proven otherwise by a preponderance of the evidence. A preponderance of the evidence is determined when the Academic Integrity Council concludes that it is more likely than not that the Respondent violated this Code as alleged in the Charge.
- g. **Close of Hearing.** After the Complainant and Respondent have had the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses and the Academic Integrity Council has introduced any additional witnesses or documents to be considered, the hearing will be considered closed. Further evidence will not be considered in the decision.
- h. **Written Hearing Decision.** The Academic Integrity Council will provide a written decision stating what evidence was considered and how the decision was reached. If the Respondent is found responsible, the hearing decision will state what sanctions will be imposed. No sanction may be imposed for conduct not specifically alleged in the Charge.
- i. **Notice of Appeal Right.** The Respondent will be notified upon receiving the hearing decision of the right to appeal that decision, as described below, to the Director of the Center for Student Conduct or designee within five business days of the date the hearing decision was sent.
- j. **Option to Withdraw.** If the Academic Integrity Council determines the Respondent is "not responsible" the student may remain in the course without penalty, or may drop the course, even if the hearing occurs after the "Last Day to Withdraw" for the semester. If the student who has been found not responsible chooses to drop, the Registrar will remove all records of the enrollment from the transcript, and will not apply the grade of W.

#### 4. Appeal Procedures

- a. **Bases for Appeal.** The hearing decision may be appealed for the following reasons only: (1) a procedural error unfairly and materially affected the outcome of the case, (2) material evidence has been discovered that was not reasonably available at the time of the hearing, or (3) there was a clear abuse of discretion on the part of the Academic Integrity Council.
- b. **Submitting an Appeal.** To appeal, the Respondent must submit a written statement to the Dean of Students, or designee, within five business days of the date of the hearing decision letter, stating as precisely as possible, the basis for the appeal. When submitting an appeal, the appealing party must provide a rationale for the appeal and adequate information (including documentation) to support the appeal. Failure to do so may result in the denial of the Respondent's appeal.
- c. **Consideration of Appeal.** Provided sufficient information has been submitted to support an appeal on one of the above listed bases, the Dean of Students, or designee, shall then provide a copy of the written appeal and any supporting documentation to the Complainant. The Complainant may submit a written response to the appeal to the Dean

of Students, or designee, within five business days of the date the appeal was sent to that party. A copy of this response, if any, will be sent to the Respondent from the Dean of Students, or designee.

**d. Written Appeal Decision.** The Dean of Students, or designee, will thereafter review all submitted materials, and the pertinent case documents, and render a written decision. The appeal decision may uphold, modify, or overturn the hearing decision, including sanctions, as warranted. The appeal decision rendered by the Dean of Students, or designee, is the final action taken by the University.

**5. Post-Hearing Process.** If the Respondent fails to comply with the sanctions imposed within a specified time period, the Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee may impose additional sanctions on the Respondent, up to and including dismissal from the University. In addition to the sanctions listed in the next section, the Coordinator of Academic Integrity may place a hold on the student's future registration privileges with the University. Such a hold may result in a cancellation of all pre-registered courses. The hold remains in effect until the outstanding academic integrity matter and sanctions have been resolved. Additionally, a student will be billed a \$150 non-compliance fee.

## Sanctions

The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or designee and/or the Academic Integrity Council will impose sanctions after determining that a Respondent has been found responsible, or taken responsibility for violating this Code. When doing so, they may consider mitigating and aggravating circumstances. Factors that will be considered include the following:

- Past academic dishonesty history of the Respondent, including the completion of sanctions from past academic integrity cases.
- Nature of the offense.
- Whether the Respondent promptly took responsibility for one's actions.
- Present demeanor of the Respondent.
- Any lack of honesty or cooperation by the Respondent during an investigation or student conduct proceeding.

The Academic Integrity Council has discretion to assign sanctions less than an XF where they believe circumstances warrant a different sanction.

Note: While evidence to the contrary may be presented, the Academic Integrity Hearing process begins with the reasonable assumption that students who have joined the UVM community have been prepared with a principled understanding of the Academic Integrity standards and the Council retains discretion to determine the weight to be afforded any evidence to the contrary on a case by case basis.

Sanctions which may be imposed include but are not limited to the following:

**A Zero on the Indicated Coursework:** This sanction will be applied by the instructor to the student's overall grade record.

**Educational Sanctions:** The Coordinator of Academic Integrity or the Academic Integrity Council may require completion of a variety of educational sanctions, which may include:

- A reflective essay or a research paper on principles of academic integrity
- A formal apology, in writing or in person
- Academic integrity projects
- Statements of purpose
- Planning or attending educational programs about academic integrity

**Grade of XF:** Upon receipt of information from the Center for Student Conduct, the Registrar will apply the XF grade to a student transcript. The student's transcript will indicate "failure resulting from academic dishonesty." An XF can be converted to a standard F, and the XF notation removed from the transcript, if the student successfully completes a Seminar on Academic Integrity, which is offered by the Center for Student Conduct each semester. Students will only be eligible to have the XF notation removed from the transcript until one semester after graduation. If a student commits a second violation of this Code resulting in a grade of XF, there will be no opportunity to convert the XF to a standard F.

A student who holds the grade of XF may be suspended from representing UVM at university-sponsored events, and may be removed or suspended from occupying a recognized position of student leadership. Student leadership positions include, but are not limited to, Student Government Association officers, Graduate Student Senate officers, residential advisors, athletes, teaching assistants, or graders, for a length of time to be determined by the appropriate University authorities. A grade of XF may also affect a student's employee status at the University.

Masters and doctoral students taking their comprehensive exams who are found responsible for a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity, and receive a sanction of XF, will receive a permanent notation on their transcript next to the Comprehensive Examination indicator. If the student is permitted to take the comprehensive examination a second time, the first notation of XF remains and cannot be removed.

Masters and doctoral students defending their thesis or dissertation who are found responsible for a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity, and receive a sanction of XF, will receive a permanent notation on their transcript next to the thesis or dissertation indicator. If the student is permitted to defend the thesis or dissertation a second time, the first notation of XF remains and cannot be removed.

**Suspension from the University:** This sanction separates the student from the University for a specified period of time. This sanction prohibits attendance at any classes and participation in the University Study Abroad program during the suspension period. The terms of the suspension may restrict access to University grounds or buildings, as well as attendance at University-sponsored social events, or other functions, as deemed appropriate by the Dean of Students or

designee. The student may not register or enroll until the stated period of suspension is completed and any requirements for the period of suspension are fulfilled.

The student's transcript will indicate "Suspension resulting from academic dishonesty." After the suspension has been served, this note can be removed from the student's transcript if the student successfully completes a Seminar on Academic Integrity. A student who commits a subsequent violation of this Code resulting in a suspension will have no opportunity to remove the notation from the transcript.

**Dismissal:** This sanction separates the student permanently from the University of Vermont. The student's transcript will indicate "Dismissal resulting from academic dishonesty" and any grade of XF on the student's transcript will be permanent.

### **Undergraduate Students**

For a first deliberate offense, an undergraduate student will likely receive a grade of XF in the indicated course. Mitigating circumstances will be considered. An undergraduate student can be dismissed after a first offense if the violation is malicious or egregious, or if the student fails to cooperate with the Coordinator of Academic Integrity or Academic Integrity Council. For a second deliberate offense, an undergraduate student will typically receive a grade of XF and be suspended or dismissed from the University.

### **Graduate Students**

For a first deliberate offense, graduate students will likely receive a grade of XF in the indicated course, or a notation of XF for the Comprehensive examination, thesis or dissertation, and may be suspended or dismissed from the University. Mitigating circumstances will be considered. There is no opportunity for graduate students to convert the XF to a standard F.

### **Academic Integrity Records and Retention of Records**

Records of dismissal from the University, as well as grades of unconverted XF, are permanent. Records of all other sanctions imposed under this Policy will be sealed upon the student's graduation, or in the case of a student who has voluntarily withdrawn from the University, after two consecutive years of withdrawal. When a student receives a sanction of suspension, their records will be sealed upon the earlier of either graduation or four consecutive years of absence from the University.

Records are personal and confidential. Students may inspect their records at any reasonable time. These records may also be shared with other University officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the information they contain. Under no circumstances will any personally identifiable information be released to any external individual, agency, or organization except with the prior written consent of the student or as otherwise required by law.

## **Forms**

Interactive Web Referral Form

[https://publicdocs.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont&layout\\_id=2](https://publicdocs.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont&layout_id=2)

## Contacts

Questions regarding the daily operational interpretation of this policy should be directed to:

Dean of Students  
41 South Prospect Street  
Burlington, Vermont 05405  
(802) 656-3380  
<http://www.uvm.edu/studentaffairs>

or

Director, Center for Student Conduct  
41 South Prospect Street  
Burlington, Vermont 05405  
(802) 656-4360  
<http://www.uvm.edu/sconduct/>

The Vice Provost for Student Affairs is the Responsible Official for the administration and interpretation of this policy.

## Related Documents/Policies

Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities

<http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/studentcode.pdf>

Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activities Policy

<http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/grants/researchmisconduct.pdf>

## Effective Date

Approved by the President May 10, 2017