



University Conduct Board

Academic Misconduct

Lunch & Learn Topic #3

Spring 2021



Training Note

This training was created for University Conduct Board members at East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania.

Training materials are provided on the Student Conduct and Community Standards website to adhere to the Title IX Federal Regulations of 2020.

Questions about training materials can be directed to SCCS.

Learning Outcomes

1. Participants will describe forms of academic misconduct covered by the Code of Conduct.
2. Participants will select appropriate sanctions if there is a determination of responsibility in sample scenarios.
3. Participants will identify key campus resources for students that may be struggling with their coursework.

What is Academic Misconduct?

- **Academic Misconduct**
 - “Traditional” Academic Misconduct
 - “Contract Cheating”
- **Programs that Have been Used/Mentioned in Academic Misconduct Cases**
 - Chegg
 - CourseHero
 - Grammarly (in Microsoft Word)

ESU Student Code of Conduct

- **Categories of Academic Misconduct in the Current ESU Student Code of Conduct (*Academic Year 2020 – 2021*)**
 - a) During a test or examination, using anything, such as, but not limited to, any device, document, person or other resource not authorized by the instructor.
 - b) Providing or receiving assistance in an examination, test, assignment, paper, or project in a manner not authorized by the instructor.
 - c) Buying, selling, stealing, or engaging in unauthorized exchange, or using any tests or examinations in advance of their administration.
 - d) Buying, selling, stealing, or engaging in unauthorized exchange, or improperly using any assignments, papers, projects, or course materials.
 - e) Presenting as one's own, the ideas or works of another person(s) scholastic, literary, or artistic—in whole or in part, without proper and customary acknowledgment of sources.
 - f) Falsifying or inventing information, data, or research material.
 - g) Obtaining information in a way contrary to the stated policies of the course and/or the University as stated herein.
 - h) Attempting to bribe or coerce any university employee or student in order to gain academic advantage.
 - i) Conspiring with others in order to circumvent academic requirements.
 - j) Substituting for another student, arranging for substitution by another student, or misrepresenting oneself as another person for a required class activity.

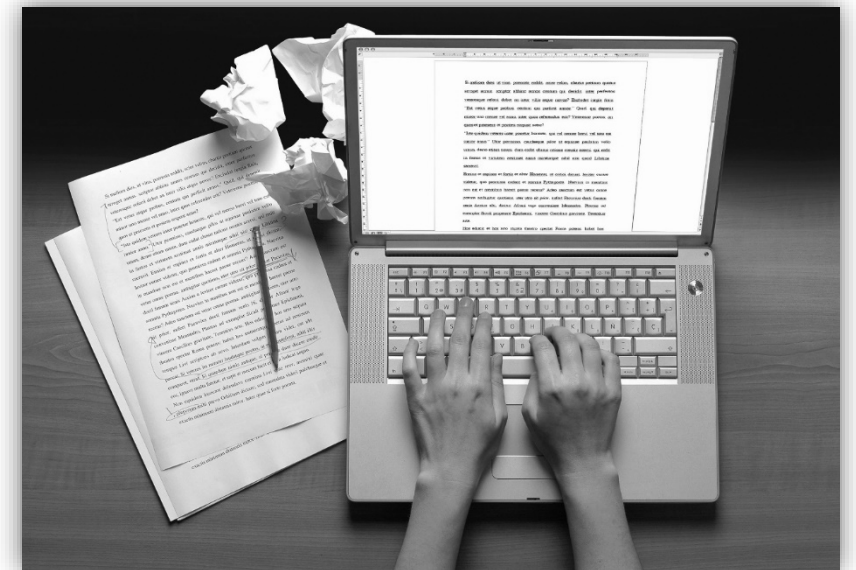
A Few Campus Resources for ESU Students...

■ ESU Tutoring Center

- Services range from drop-in support to an established tutor for specific courses

■ ESU Writing Studio

- Helps students review papers/presentations
- The online toolkit provides sample quizzes and reference documents to help students complete their writing independently



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& More Campus Resources for ESU Students

- **ESU Counseling and Psychological Services**
 - Can support students needing help with Stress Management or Time Management
- **ESU Faculty**
 - Many faculty members provide sample papers in their course materials or provide detailed guides to MLA/APA for writing papers
 - Faculty members want to help students learn, even if the student will ultimately be required to retake a class after an academic misconduct incident

Considerations for Formal Hearings

Things to Ask About in the Formal Hearing Process:

- Class Syllabus/Policies
- Communications between Professor(s) and the Student
- Questions about the Materials Under Review (Paper, test, project, etc.)
- What does the student know about Academic Misconduct?

Considerations for Educational Sanctions:

- Intent of the Student in their Decision Making
- Consequences and Potential Consequences
- Student's Attitude, Perspective and Experiences
- Review of Prior Conduct Record & Sanctions *(if applicable)*

Common Educational Sanctions

Levels of “Warning” Sanctions

- Official Warning
- Disciplinary Probation
- Deferred Suspension
- Immediate Suspension
- Expulsion

Additional Educational Sanctions

- Academic Integrity Seminar
- Ethics Workshop (*with Reflection Paper*)
- Meeting with CAPS (*Time Management and/or Stress Management*)
- Academic Integrity Research & Reflection Paper

Other Ideas for Educational Sanctions? Note that other sanctions could be appropriate depending on the circumstances or to address individual needs.

Putting it Into Practice – Scenario #1

- **Scenario:**
 - Professor alleges that a student plagiarized a paper with 90% of the paper showing up as plagiarized by Turn It In. Student states an email to the Professor that they did not plagiarize the paper and wrote it themselves with no outside sources. Professor's syllabus does state that any sources referenced must be cited according to MLA format.
- **What kinds of questions might you ask about in the Formal Hearing process?**
- **If found responsible, what kinds of Educational Sanctions may be appropriate?**

Putting it Into Practice – Scenario #2

- **Scenario:**

- A graduate assistant notices that 4 students in a class of 50+ have responses to an online quiz that are nearly identical. There were two questions with the same error in a computation – which is not a common error – as well as a short-answer question which was nearly the same response on all four quizzes. After approaching the faculty member, the GA submitted a referral and one student stated that there is a GroupMe that some students have been talking about as a “study group” and involves the same 4 students.
- **What kinds of questions might you ask about in the Formal Hearing process?**
- **If found responsible, what kinds of Educational Sanctions may be appropriate?**

Putting it Into Practice – Scenario #3

- **Scenario:**
 - In the course of a Conduct Conference, a student admits to purchasing a paper from another student that previously took the class. The student alleges that this senior-student has been selling papers to a number of other friends/students. After an investigation by SCCS and an initial meeting, both students move forward in the Formal Hearing process (separately).
- **What kinds of questions might you ask about in the Formal Hearing process?**
- **If found responsible, what kinds of Educational Sanctions may be appropriate?**

Thank You!

The words "Thank You" are written in a light gray, cursive, handwritten font. The text is surrounded by several short, radiating lines of varying lengths, creating a sunburst or starburst effect around the words.

***Please share your anonymous feedback
in the “Closing Poll” on your screen.
Thank you!***

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Resources and References

ESU Student Code of Conduct: Available on the [SCCS Webpage](#)
SCCS Website – [Educational Sanctions](#)

Student Services Included in this Presentation:

- [Tutoring Center](#)
- [Writing Studio](#)
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#)

Recent Articles:

- [Article about Academic Misconduct during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Forbes Article about Chegg](#)
- [Inside Higher Ed Articles about Course Hero](#)