

Academic Integrity at GA Tech



The rights and responsibilities of instructors and students



Office of Student Integrity (OSI)



- Division of Dean of Students Office
- Different judicial boards and committees
 - Student and faculty members



Georgia Institute of Technology Academic Honor Code



- Ensure that students, faculty and administrators understand that the responsibility for upholding academic honesty at Georgia Tech lies with them;
- Prevent any students from gaining an unfair advantage over other students through academic misconduct;
- Ensure that students understand that academic dishonesty is a violation of the profound trust of the entire academic community;
- Clarify what constitutes academic misconduct among students at Georgia Tech and what is expected of them by the Institute, the faculty, and their peers;
- Cultivate an environment at Georgia Tech where academic dishonesty is not tolerated among the students;
- Secure a centralized system of education and awareness of the Honor Code.



Examples of Academic Violations



- Possessing, using, or exchanging improperly acquired written or verbal information in the preparation of any assignment or test
- Substitution for, or unauthorized collaboration with, another student on a test
- Plagiarism
- False claims of performance for academic work
- Alteration of an academic grade
- Deliberate falsification of a written or verbal statement of fact in order to obtain unearned academic credit



Other violations



- Sexual harassment
- Disruptive behavior



Honor Code Faculty Expectations



- Clearly explain what constitutes appropriate academic conduct
- Provide copies of old exams
- Avoid reuse of exams
- Include Honor Code on the syllabus
- Report instances of academic dishonesty

Honor Code Student Expectations



- Conform their own behavior to the policies of the Honor Code
- Act upon instances of violations of the Honor Code
 - Confront student(s) involved
 - Report violations to the instructor
 - Ask an Honor Advisor for advice

TA Expectations



- Most important point—only the instructor of record should report a violation. If you are not the instructor of record, consult with him/her before reporting allegations to OSI.
- Make sure that the professor's class policies follow and support the Honor Code's faculty expectations.
- Keep good records of grades and student interactions throughout the semester.

Instructor steps to forward a possible violation



- Gather and keep all evidence
- Review OSI website for instructions
- Give the student the prototype letter provided on the OSI website and ask the student to make an appointment with Dean of Students
- Assign a grade of "I" (Incomplete) as a final course grade until you hear the results from the Dean of Students
- OSI will work with you to resolve the situation before it goes to an administrative or judicial decision

Honor Committee



- If a student does not agree with the Dean's administrative decision, he/she can go before a judicial committee for a hearing.
 - Faculty and student panel with a faculty chair
 - Hear all the facts from witnesses, accused student and the faculty member
 - Decide whether the student is reasonably responsible for allegation and if so, what should be the Institute's response
 - A student has the right to appeal
- On average 8 – 10 students a year go to the HC.

Conclusion



- The more steps taken to ensure academic integrity beforehand, the less of a chance for violations of the Honor Code to occur
- For more information see OSI site:
 - <http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity>