School of Psychological Sciences
Student Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity refers to the ethical conduct of those interacting in the contexts of teaching, learning, and research. In particular, five core values are emphasized in the UNC Student Handbook: Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility. Violations of academic integrity, or academic misconduct, include cheating, plagiarizing, falsifying data, misrepresenting oneself (e.g., regarding one’s credentials or status), and mistreating research participants. We take seriously the academic integrity of our students. We are active in attempting to prevent and detect misconduct. When misconduct occurs, we impose consequences. The School of Psychological Sciences cooperates with the Dean of Students, the Chief Disciplinary Officer at UNC, and supports the Student Honor Code. The purpose of this policy is to describe the expectations for personnel of the School of Psychological Sciences as they relate to violations of academic integrity by students.

School personnel will not ignore violations of academic integrity. When School Personnel suspect academic misconduct, they will clearly communicate with the student, explaining the perceived infraction. If the student is determined to have committed a serious act of academic dishonesty such that a failing score is given for the assignment or the class, the instructor will contact the School Director and, if the student is a graduate student, the School Graduate Program Coordinator as well as the offices of the Dean of the College and the Dean of Students to inform them of the misconduct. Instructors may also inquire about any previous infractions by the student in question with the information obtained influencing the consequence they impose. The consequence will be clearly communicated to the student who will also be referred to UNC’s Student Code of Conduct for information about due process and the opportunity to appeal. If the student is enrolled in a program in another School, the Director of that unit may also be notified. If the student is an unclassified graduate student, the Dean of the Graduate School will be informed.

A consequence will be imposed for all acts of academic misconduct; however, instructors will have some discretion to fit the consequence to the transgression. Consequences may range from, for example, a requirement to redo the work for a reduced score, to an F in the class. Instructors also have the option of referring the case to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action and may recommend suspension or expulsion.

The following statement will appear on all class syllabi:
The University of Northern Colorado’s Student Code of Conduct (www.unco.edu/dos/pdf/StudentCodeofConduct.pdf) and Honor Code (www.unco.edu/dos/communityStandards/honor_code/index.html) strictly prohibit any form of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and knowingly or recklessly encouraging or making possible any act of plagiarism, cheating, or fabrication. Academic misconduct is an unacceptable activity in scholarship and is in conflict with academic and professional ethics and morals. All incidents of alleged plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will be investigated and violations of academic integrity will result in a consequence that may be as severe as an F in the class and a recommendation for expulsion. For more information on plagiarism and appropriate paraphrasing, please see: http://www.unco.edu/dos/academicIntegerty/students/index.html