



# Academic Integrity at the University of Toronto

**The University of Toronto's goal is to sustain and support a community of students and scholars who embody the fundamental values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage.**

## **A community with integrity**

Fostering such a community requires education and openness about the academic conduct that the University expects of all of its members. Educating students about expected academic conduct is a continuous process that occurs across the University, with most such conversations beginning in the classroom. The instructor fulfills a vital role in educating students about the norms of academic integrity that we expect our community to uphold.

**Responsibility for academic integrity education is shared across the University**, with librarians, TA's,

orientation leaders, peer tutors, academic success staff, writing instructors, registrars, and academic advisors each and all playing a part in this most vital piece of a U of T student's education.

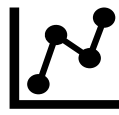
Restrictions against certain kinds of academic misconduct—such as plagiarism, falsification of academic records, and concoction of cited sources—are set out with clarity in the University's *Code of Behavior on Academic Matters*.

The Code also emphasizes the University's **commitment to the values of transparency, fairness, equity, and**

**timeliness in its academic integrity processes.** By creating transparency around academic expectations, the University aims to deter misconduct that can have serious impacts on a student's studies. By treating students equitably across the divisions, the Code creates a system where no student should be held to different standards than another. And by creating a system that values timeliness, the University aims to facilitate students resolving incidents of academic misconduct in support of their overall academic goals.

The University recognizes that **in most cases, student academic misconduct is not the result of malicious intent, but rather of poor decision-making during periods of personal or academic stress.** Faculty and staff are mindful that an act of academic misconduct can create additional stress for students, and aim to provide a supportive environment for students to learn and move forward from academic misconduct.

Academic misconduct is a prism reflecting constant technological and societal evolution. For this reason, the Provostial Advisory Group on Academic Integrity, Dean's and Chair's Offices **continuously monitor new trends in academic integrity**, and encourage open discussion between faculty and students about emerging trends in order to deter potential academic misconduct.



The University produces an **annual statistical report** of academic offences committed across the three campuses, which allows for year-over-year comparisons and analysis. The Provostial Advisory Group reviews the annual report and discusses trends of concern with Dean's Offices. Numbers of offences vary from year to year and can be reflections of changing or unexpected conditions within and beyond the University.