

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
STUDENT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY
Effective April 29, 2009

The following policy defines a uniform approach to acts of academic misconduct involving students in courses offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Academic integrity requires the honest performance of academic responsibilities by students. Academic responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the preparation of assignments, reports and term papers, the taking of examinations, and a sincere and conscientious effort by students to abide by the policies set forth by instructors.

Any subversion or compromise of academic integrity thus constitutes academic misconduct. Academic misconduct by a student shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes; threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work; unauthorized changing of grades; unauthorized use of University approvals or forging of signatures; falsification of research results; plagiarizing of another's work; violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects; or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.

When an instructor determines that a student has violated academic integrity as described above, the instructor may charge the student with academic misconduct (Instructor Processing Details, page 4).

In addition to informing the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the KU Office of Research Integrity will be informed of all charges filed alleging dishonesty in research. KU Human Resources will be informed of all charges filed alleging sexual harassment.

The possible sanctions for academic misconduct are detailed below and are within the provisions of Article II, Section 6, of the University Senate Rules and Regulations. When a student wishes to appeal a sanction or dispute a misconduct charge, hearings may be held at two possible levels within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences depending primarily on the recommended sanction(s) for the misconduct in question.

Department/unit level hearings will routinely review cases in which recommended sanctions are:

Censure - A written reprimand (warning) for actions which constitute academic misconduct.

Reduction of Grade for Specific Work - Treating as unsatisfactory any work that is a product of academic misconduct. Reduction of grade may include the assignment of an "F" for that specific work. The student may be permitted to withdraw from the course within the approved withdrawal period.

Reduction of Grade for the Course - Reduction of grade may include the awarding of an "F" for the course. The student will not be allowed to withdraw from the course. The student will not be allowed to apply the Course Repeat Policy to remove the assigned grade from his/her grade point average calculation.

After a charge of misconduct is filed, department/unit hearings will be scheduled ONLY if the student wishes to deny the charge and/or appeal the recommended sanction. If the student admits to the charge and does not wish to appeal, the sanction may be imposed immediately.

The initial hearing of academic misconduct can be deferred to the College level only under certain circumstances: 1) if the unit is too small to hold the hearing; or 2) if there is a conflict of interest at the unit level. The student or the instructor can request an initial hearing before the College or the Judicial Board should a party believe that there is an issue of fairness of the hearing being held at the usual unit level.

College level hearings will review all cases in which recommended sanctions are:

Transcript Citation for Academic Misconduct: The student's transcript will state that the student has been cited for academic misconduct. This sanction will include a determination of the final grade in the course. This grade may be an "F." The statement will be permanent unless the student applies to the University Provost for removal of the statement and the application is granted.

Suspension from a Specific Course - An instructor may suspend a student from the instructor's section of a course for academic misconduct. In cases involving physical violence or disruptive behavior, the suspension should occur immediately. In cases where a physical threat is made, the suspension should be reported to the KU Police Department. During suspension, a student is not permitted to withdraw, pending decision by the hearing committee. A suspended student may complete work for the course only if reinstated. Conditions for reinstatement to the course shall be stated by the instructor at the time of the suspension. These initial conditions are subject to review by the hearing committee. When suspending a student, the instructor shall, before the next meeting of the course, inform the chairperson of the department in which this course is offered. The department chairperson shall notify the student in person or by certified mail (postmarked on or before the day of the next class meeting) of the opportunity to be heard on the suspension. The department chairperson shall also inform the Office of Student Success and other appropriate offices according to guidelines of the academic unit involved. The student's appeal will be heard through academic misconduct proceedings. The hearing panel will consist of one faculty member within the division, one associate dean, and the director of the Student Academic Services Office or his/her representative. The suspension will remain in effect pending review. Because this sanction places an immediate burden upon the suspended student, the College is obligated to act promptly. Options in such review include: reassignment of the student to another section of the course; reinstatement of the student into the course; upholding the suspension. In case of suspension through the end of the semester, a grade will be assigned by the instructor, subject to review by the hearing committee.

Suspension - Immediate exclusion from all courses and other specified privileges or activities for a definite period not to exceed two years, subject to review by the hearing committee. The student's transcript will state that the student is suspended for academic misconduct.

Expulsion - Termination of student status for an indefinite period. The conditions of readmission, if any, shall be stated in the order of expulsion. The student's transcript will state that the student is expelled for academic misconduct.

All transcript statements will be permanent unless the student applies to the University Provost for removal of the statement and the application is granted.

College level sanctions imposed by the hearing panel may include all sanctions above including those typically addressed at the department/unit level. More than one sanction may be imposed for the same offense.

Hearing Panel and Appeals

For sanctions that require a hearing at the College level, or if a student wishes to, the Dean will appoint a hearing panel consisting of a minimum of three faculty members to conduct a hearing for all parties involved. This hearing shall be scheduled during one of five sessions during the academic year (August, October, December, February, and May).

Attending the hearing are the charged student, the charging instructor(s) and his/her department chairperson, the hearing panel, and the director of the College Student Academic Services. The hearing will be held even if the charged student fails to appear for the hearing.

Individuals attending the hearing will be kept to a minimum to insure the confidentiality of the proceedings. The charged student and/or charging instructor may request that an observer/advisor or witness(es) attend the hearing. The College scheduling officer must be notified in writing 10 calendar days prior to the hearing of any observer/advisor and/or witness(es) that will be attending the hearing. An observer (a supportive family member, advisor, or friend) may not directly participate in the hearing. Witnesses may be present only during their testimony to respond to questions from the panel, charged student, or charging instructor(s).

Typically, students do not bring legal counsel. However, if the student has an attorney, University General Counsel will be contacted and asked to attend the hearing also. The hearing may be delayed until such time as all parties, including legal representatives from both sides, can attend.

The hearing panel, having heard the charges and the student's response, will determine the validity of the charge of academic misconduct. If the charge is found to be valid, the panel will determine which of the above sanctions are to be imposed, based on the severity of the offense and any record of previous academic misconduct. The panel will notify the Dean and the Provost of its decision.

If either party to a charge of academic misconduct or to a grade appeal involving a charge of academic misconduct is dissatisfied with the resolution of the charge, he or she may seek review by the Judicial Board. All appeals must be made within 30 calendar days of the initial decision.

Per USRR 2.6.2, the College may establish procedures to address, process, and file academic misconduct charges occurring in conjunction with courses delivered by the College. The College reserves the right to review cases in which these procedures have not been appropriately applied by individual College departments.

Maintenance of Records

Written records of the charge will be maintained in the Office of the Provost using the Charge of Academic Misconduct form provided by the College.

All hearings must be audio recorded. Audio recordings of misconduct hearings will be kept by the unit conducting the hearing for sixty days following the decision of the hearing panel unless the decision is appealed in which case the recordings will be retained until the student's final appeal is completed.

INSTRUCTOR/DEPARTMENTAL PROCESSING OF A CHARGE OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. When an instructor determines that a student has violated academic integrity, the instructor may charge the student with academic misconduct by completing the Charge of Academic Misconduct form. The instructor must complete the Charge of Academic Misconduct form (page 6) provided by the College within 10 calendar days of the discovery and investigation of the misconduct. Any reduction in a student's grade due to academic misconduct must be accompanied by the Charge of Academic Misconduct form.
2. To complete the Charge of Academic Misconduct form, briefly document the alleged academic misconduct, and review the case with your department chair/director.
3. Recommend one or more sanctions listed below:

Censure-written warning or reprimand
Reduction of Grade for Specific Work (Indicate grade: zero, F, D, or other _____)
Reduction of Grade for the Course (Indicate grade: F, D, or other _____)
(Not Eligible for Course Repeat Policy, Withdrawal, or Retroactive Withdrawal))
*Transcript Citation of Academic Misconduct - (Must also indicate grade: F, D, or other _____)
*Suspension from a specific course
* Suspension from the University of Kansas - Noted on Transcript
* Expulsion from the University of Kansas - Noted on Transcript
*Charge will be heard at College level

University Senate Rules and Regulations Information is available at:

<https://documents.ku.edu/policies/governance/USRR.htm>

4. Both the instructor and department chair/director must sign and date the Charge of Academic Misconduct form. The signature of the department chair indicates awareness of the charging instructor's charge, not necessarily agreement with the charging instructor's recommendations. If the department chair is also the charging instructor, the undergraduate or graduate coordinator in the department reviews and signs on behalf of the department. If a course is cross-listed, the department of the instructor making the charge files the charge and processes the case.
5. The department chair consults the College SAS Office (864-2824) or Provost (864-4904) to inquire about previous infractions. Previous documented misconduct should be considered in determining recommended sanctions. The department chair/director determines if the charging instructor's recommended sanctions should be elevated.
6. Student notification of the Charge of Academic Misconduct must be sent as soon as possible, not to exceed 30 days from the date of the instructor's filing of academic misconduct charges. The department chair/director is responsible for contacting the student to sign and return the form. If it is possible, present the form, notification letter, policy, and student handbook to the student in person, and obtain his/her signature on the misconduct form, explaining the deadlines for signing and returning.
7. If initial attempts to contact the student by phone or email are not successful within 10 days, notification must be sent by certified mail (template, page 10) to the student's: 1) permanent address on file if courses are not in session or the student is not enrolled; or 2) to local address on file if student is enrolled in the current semester. Do not send the original charge form, but send a copy of the charge form along with a letter of explanation. Mail materials to the student by certified mail with return receipt requested. Retain copy of original packet before mailing.
8. The student is given the opportunity to select one statement below in response to the alleged charge of misconduct:

I admit to the above charge of academic misconduct and accept the recommended sanction.
I admit to the above charge of academic misconduct but wish to appeal the recommended sanction.
I deny the charge of academic misconduct and wish to appeal the recommended sanction.

Students may submit additional information or a written statement if they choose.

9. The student must be given 10 calendar days to review the document and determine his/her response. Students cannot be given the impression that they are required to respond immediately. Informing the student that the document will be available for his/her signature in the Department Office during the 10 day period is a common practice.

10. Failure of the student to respond within 10 calendar days of notification will be judged to indicate the student's agreement with the charge and sanctions.

11. When a signed form is received from the student, or 10 days have elapsed since the student's notification, proceed as follows:

- a. If the student admits to the charge and does not wish to appeal recommended sanctions of Censure, Reduction of Grade for Specific Work, or Reduction of Grade for the Course, process charge and impose sanction.
 1. Document the final sanction on the Charge of Academic Misconduct form.
 2. Retain a copy for your files (yellow), send a copy to the student (pink), and send remaining copies (including original) to the College SAS Office. All evidence presented by the charging instructor should be included.
 3. If the sanction requires changes to the student's transcript, submit a grade change online using the reason of academic misconduct for the grade change, or submit to the College SAS Office a Change of Grade Form noting the grade determined and a notation of academic misconduct for the explanation of the change.
 4. Notify the student and charging instructor in writing of the actions taken within 30 days.
- b. If the student wishes to deny the charge and/or appeal recommended sanctions of Censure, Reduction of Grade for Specific Work, or Reduction of Grade for the Course, the department is responsible for scheduling the hearing (pages 7 - 9).
 1. Follow departmental policy for scheduling and conducting the hearing.
 2. Retain a copy for your files (yellow), send a copy to the student (pink), and send remaining copies (including original) to the College SAS Office. All evidence presented at the hearing should be included.
 3. If the sanction requires changes to the student's transcript, submit a grade change online using the reason of academic misconduct for the grade change, or submit to the College SAS Office a Change of Grade Form noting the grade determined and a notation of academic misconduct for the explanation of the change.
 4. Notify the student and charging instructor in writing of the actions taken within 30 days.
- c. If the recommended sanctions include Transcript Citation for Academic Misconduct, Suspension, and/or Expulsion or the student involved is not a student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, refer the case to the College SAS Office.

12. The initial hearing of academic misconduct for lower-level sanctions can be deferred to the College only under certain circumstances: 1) if the unit is too small to hold the hearing; or 2) if there is a conflict of interest at the unit level. The student or the instructor can request an initial hearing before the College or Judicial Board, should a party believe that there is an issue of fairness of the hearing being held at the usual unit level.

13. If a charge of academic misconduct is pending during an end of semester grade submission deadline, the instructor should temporarily assign a grade of WG (Waiting Grade) to the student. If you have difficulties with successful submission of this grade, please contact the University Registrar at 864-4422.

CHARGE OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Last Name First Name Initial KU ID #

Department Course # Course Title Cr. Hrs. Semester

1. Briefly describe the alleged academic misconduct: _____ (Attach supporting evidence.)

2. Recommend one or more sanctions listed below:

- Censure-written warning or reprimand
- Reduction of Grade for Specific Work (Indicate grade: zero, F, D, or other _____)
- Reduction of Grade for the Course (Indicate grade: F, D, or other _____)
(Not Eligible for Course Repeat Policy, Withdrawal, or Retroactive Withdrawal)
- *Transcript Citation of Academic Misconduct - (Must also indicate grade: F, D, or other _____)
- *Suspension from a specific course
- * Suspension from the University of Kansas - Noted on Transcript
- * Expulsion from the University of Kansas - Noted on Transcript
*Charge will be heard at College level

Instructor Signature Date Instructor's Name Printed

Department Chair/Director or their Designate: Student Misconduct Record Review through College Misconduct Officer (864-3500) or Provost (864-4904)

- No previous incidence(s) on file – No change to recommended sanction above.
- Previous incidence(s) on file – Recommended sanction elevated to: _____

Department Chair Signature Date Chair's Name Printed

Student Contact

E-mail Date: _____ Direct Contact Date: _____ Certified Mail Date: _____

All information above must be completed and available to the charged student within 10 calendar days of discovery and investigation of the misconduct.

Student/Faculty Initial: _____

Student: You must sign this form and return it to the chairperson of the department **within ten (10) calendar days**. FAILURE TO RETURN THIS FORM ON TIME WILL BE JUDGED TO INDICATE YOUR AGREEMENT WITH THE ABOVE CHARGE OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND TO WAIVE YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL THE CHARGES.

- _____ I admit to the above charge of academic misconduct and accept the recommended sanction.
- _____ I admit to the above charge of academic misconduct but wish to appeal the proposed sanction.
- _____ I deny the charge of academic misconduct and wish to appeal the proposed sanction.

Student Signature Date I received information regarding policy & procedures.
 I did not receive information regarding policy & procedures.

Hearing Scheduled: _____ () Dept.
Date Time Location () College

Findings:
 Charge Dismissed.
 SANCTION(S) IMPOSED: _____

Results of Misconduct Hearing will be communicated to the student in writing within 30 days of decision.

Documents forwarded to College by Department: _____ (Date)