

Student Academic Integrity Violation FAQ's

What is an academic integrity violation?

CHEATING AND/OR PLAGIARISM

Students are expected to act in an honest and trustworthy manner. Work performed on examinations or other forms of evaluation must represent an individual's own work, knowledge, and experience of the subject matter. Students are expected to follow the classroom rules established by each instructor. ([AP 5550](#))

What happens when an Instructor identifies an academic integrity violation?

THE INSTRUCTOR WILL INFORM THE STUDENT(S) ABOUT THE VIOLATION AND ANY GRADE CHANGES

The severity of penalties imposed for academic dishonesty shall reside with the instructor. An instructor may give written or verbal notice to a student that their conduct may be cause for further disciplinary action.

What happens if a student doesn't agree with the grade change?

A STUDENT CAN START THE GRIEVANCE PROCESS, IF THEY BELIEVE THEIR GRADE WAS A RESULT OF "MISTAKE, FRAUD, BAD FAITH, OR INCOMPETENCY"

1. The student needs to discuss the grade change directly with the instructor to resolve the issue.
2. If an agreement can't be made, the student must file a [Student Grievance Form](#) online and choose "Grade Grievance" from the drop-down options.
3. The student needs to email the Dean to schedule a meeting to discuss the grade grievance. The Office of Student Life will forward the Student Grievance Form to the Dean to review the basis for initiating the grievance.
4. If the problem is not resolved after meeting with the Dean, the student can email studentconduct@collegeofthedesert.edu to resolve the grievance.
5. The Office of Student Life, Dean, Department Chair, Instructor and Student will meet to review the grievance. The OSL will make the final decision on the grade grievance validity.

For more information, refer to [AP 5530: Student Rights & Grievances](#)

Will there be further disciplinary action, other than the grade change?

THE ACADEMIC VIOLATION CAN BE REPORTED TO THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE (OSL) TO START THE STUDENT CONDUCT PROCESS, SINCE CHEATING/PLAGIARISM VIOLATES THE STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT.

If the report is forwarded for further disciplinary action, the student will be contacted by OSL to hear their side of the story. The OSL will investigate and determine if the student is responsible for the violation and issue a student sanction(s), if necessary.

[Click here to learn more about the Student Conduct Process](#)