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UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Upholding Academic Integrity: Policies and Procedures at University of Galway

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What is academic integrity?

- “Acting with academic integrity means demonstrating the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. It is about producing and submitting assessments in an honest and fair way, acting and communicating ethically, and showing respect for the work of others.”



Why is academic integrity important?

- Fosters a culture of trust and honesty.
- Ensures fairness in education.
- Helps students value their own work and learning.
- Prepares students for ethical professional life and citizenship.
- Protects the reputation of institutions and qualifications.
- Respects others' knowledge and intellectual property.



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Developments at University of Galway

- September 2021: new policy.
- Institutional network.
- Staff & student awareness.
- Resources.
- Case management.



Key points of academic integrity policy

- Expanded definition of academic misconduct.
- SATLE-funded role and unit for implementing and overseeing policy.
- Creation of Academic Misconduct Register.
- Network of Academic Integrity Advisors across university.
- Introduction of Courageous Conversations model.



Fostering an institutional network

- Developing mutually supportive relationships with Academic Integrity Advisors.
- Providing support on case investigation, decision, and management.
- Discussing ambiguities and grey areas.
- Regular contact and correspondence; policy briefings and updates.



Staff training and development

- Key to *actual* awareness and knowledge of policy and procedures.
- Training for new and inexperienced Academic Integrity Advisors.
- Dedicated training sessions with disciplines, schools, and colleges.
- Courageous Conversations training sessions (online & in-person).
- Development of staff academic integrity training module.



Student awareness

- Encouraging more staff-led discussions of academic integrity in classes.
- Videos of student perspectives on academic integrity for web and social media.
- Partnership with Students' Union in awareness campaign.
- Events for National Academic Integrity Week (October).
- Development of student academic integrity training module.



Resource development

- Publishing staff guidelines on:
 - Sample assignment statements on GenAI use.
 - What to do if you suspect unauthorised student use of GenAI.
 - Literacy software and academic integrity.
 - Interpreting assignment similarity reports.
- Completing Annual Academic Integrity Case Review.



Case management

- Tracking cases a key factor in implementing policy.
- Centralising dispersed legacy records.
- Acquisition and implementation of new case management system.



Reflections

- Aim to develop an institutional culture of academic integrity.
- Support staff and students to uphold academic integrity.
- Policy leads practice, so give your policy regular and forensic attention.
- Emphasise consistent case management.
- Continue to make the (simple) case for why academic integrity is important.



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Thank you

<https://universityofgalway.ie/academicintegrity/>

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