

NMT UNDERGRADUATE HONESTY POLICY VIOLATION FACT SHEET

Violations of our Honesty Policy have increased dramatically in recent years. Fall 2015 saw more honesty policy violations than any semester in the history of the school. This sheet provides information that should help you avoid the stress and serious consequences of violating the policy.

If you are unclear about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism in a course:

- Review Tech's Responsible Academic Conduct Policies and Procedures, which are detailed in the 2016-17 Student Handbook: [http://www.nmt.edu/sur/docs/NMT Student Handbook 2016-17.pdf](http://www.nmt.edu/sur/docs/NMT_Student_Handbook_2016-17.pdf).
- Get clarification from the course instructor or teaching assistant.

You should know that:

- Helping others to cheat by letting them copy your material is an honesty violation and treated just as harshly. If you let someone copy your answers you are putting yourself at great risk.
- Forging documents or signatures is considered a serious violation of the Honesty Policy.

Consequences of honesty policy violations are serious

- First violations of Tech's Honesty Policy typically result in a grade penalty and a file in the Office of Academic Affairs.
- Second violations result in far more serious penalties, including the possibility of disciplinary suspension with a permanent notation on your transcript that the suspension was for repeated honesty policy violations.
- Third violations will almost always result in disciplinary suspension.

Detecting cheating and plagiarism is easy

- Plagiarism of text or code is very easy to identify. Faculty easily notice small changes in writing style and use on-line plagiarism detection tools, such as turnitin for text, and MOSS for computer code, to detect even very subtle attempts at plagiarism. These programs find pretty much everything.
- Copying homework solutions from online sources, such as Chegg or Yahoo Answers, is very easy to detect. Faculty now have full access to all Chegg solutions, and many Chegg solutions include subtle errors that are unique to Chegg.

If you are having trouble in a class:

- Contact the professor or TA for help.
- Go to the Office of Student Learning for tutoring.
- Get help from other students, but don't copy answers.
- Talk to your advisor about it.