

NMT UNDERGRADUATE HONESTY POLICY VIOLATION FACT SHEET

This sheet provides information that should help you avoid the stress and serious consequences of violating NMT's honesty policy. You can find additional information at the NMT Academic Honesty website (https://www.nmt.edu/academicaffairs/avpaa/academic_honesty.php).

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

- Review section 3 of NMT's "Procedures for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty and Academic Research Integrity" found on the NMT Academic Honesty website.
- Get clarification from the course instructor or teaching assistant; expectations can vary by instructor as well as by assignment for a given instructor.

You should know that:

- Helping others to cheat by letting them copy your material is an academic honesty violation and may be treated equally. If you let someone copy your answers, you are putting yourself at risk.
- Falsification (i.e., forging) documents or signatures is considered a major violation of the Academic Honesty Policy.

Consequences of honesty policy violations are serious:

- First violations of Tech's Academic Honesty Policy typically result in a grade penalty, a file being created in the Office of Academic Affairs, and the permanent loss of 'Tech Scholar' status.
- Second violations result in far more serious penalties, including the possibility of academic disciplinary action that may result in suspension with a permanent notation on your transcript that the suspension was for academic honesty policy violations. This can occur even if the violations were minor in nature – but repeated.
- Third violations will almost always result in academic disciplinary action and suspension.

Detecting cheating and plagiarism is easy:

- Plagiarism of text or code is easy to identify. Faculty easily notice small changes in writing style and with the use of online plagiarism detection tools, such as Turnitin for text and MOSS for computer code, it is straightforward to detect even subtle attempts at plagiarism. These programs find pretty much everything.
- Copying homework solutions from online sources, such as Chegg, Yahoo Answers, etc, is also straightforward to detect. Faculty also have access to Chegg solutions and Chegg provides assistance in cases of academic honesty violations. Many online solutions include subtle errors that are unique and straightforward to detect (even for solution manuals produced by the textbook).
- Cheating on online exams is frequently detected, and faculty often verbally quiz students on exam content, either randomly or if they have reason to suspect cheating.

If you are having trouble in a class:

- Contact the professor or TA for help.
- Attend faculty office hours – you can even stop by just to say hi!
- Visit the Office of Student Learning for tutoring. Many departments also offer tutoring for their courses.
- Get help from other students, but don't copy answers.
- Talk to your academic advisor about any challenges you are facing.
- Visit the Associate Dean for Student Success, Ms. Elaine DeBrine Howell, Speare, Suite 130, Rm 132.
- Set up a meeting with a member of the Counseling Center.
- Visit https://www.nmt.edu/academicaffairs/Where_to_go.php for more ideas and resources.