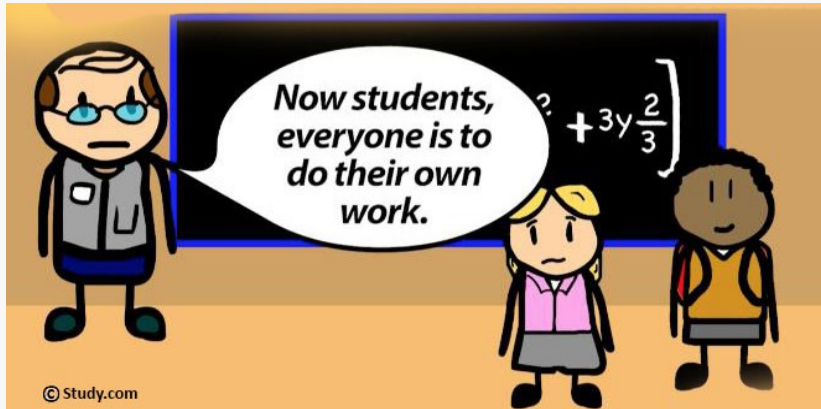


Academic Responsibility



**What International Students
Need to Know**

MHC Honor Code



I will honor myself, my fellow students, and Mount Holyoke College by acting responsibly, honestly, and respectfully in both my words and deeds.

Introduction

Mount Holyoke students are bound by the Honor Code, a standard of behavior in academic and social circumstances.

In your home country you may have learned a particular code of academic conduct which may differ from the academic code of conduct in effect in the U.S. (and at MHC). There may be different ideas about what constitutes academic misconduct in your country. Cultural differences may also affect how you determine whether a particular behavior is dishonest.

Academic programs at U.S. colleges and universities are very rigorous and demanding. While you are a student at MHC, you will occasionally experience stress as you complete your academic work. You may be anxious about completing your assignments on time, worry about your grades, or focus too much on doing well in your studies so that you don't disappoint your family.

Such pressures may lead you to violate the Honor Code unintentionally because you did not fully understand what constitutes academic misconduct. Of course, academic misconduct can also be intentional.

We hope that the information, tips and suggestions in this pamphlet will serve as a useful resource and help you learn what to do to remain academically honest and avoid committing an Honor Code violation.

Additional Thoughts & Resources

We realize that it can sometime be a bit intimidating to come to a new country and not be familiar the *Academic Honor Code* and what it means in a North American context.

[What is Academic Integrity?](#), a video produced by Simon Fraser University in Canada, summarizes the most important things you need to know about academic responsibility so that you can avoid violating the Academic Honor Code. Here is the direct link to this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GU5Nv-YjIG8>

Even though this pamphlet provides you with a wealth of information about academic honesty and your academic responsibilities, we strongly urge you to ask questions and seek help from your professors, especially if you feel you don't fully understand how to complete an assignment and want to be sure that you don't unintentionally violate the *Academic Honor Code*.

Professors are more than happy to explain or clarify any of their assignments. Similarly, is ready to help you understand any aspect of MHC's Academic Honor Code.

Good luck as you begin or continue your academic journey!



Tips for Ensuring Academic Honesty²

You cannot copy anyone else's work (including a fellow student) or a source (such as a book, article, or web site) without acknowledging this work fully and openly. Otherwise, it's cheating or plagiarism and a violation of the Honor Code.

TIP 1: If you have a group assignment, be sure you understand what the group is supposed to do together and what you are supposed to do on your own. If you are not sure, ask your professor.

TIP 2: If you use an author's exact words, enclose them in quotation marks and include a citation. See the tutorial for examples.

TIP 3: If you paraphrase another author, use your own language. Don't imitate the original. Include a citation.

TIP 4: If you rely on or report someone else's ideas, credit that source, whether you agree with it or not.

TIP 5: If you see that a fellow student has committed academic misconduct, it is your responsibility to notify your professor or the [Academic Honor Board](#).

- ◆ Remember that you are responsible for your written and oral work, including the ideas, facts, and interpretations included.
- ◆ Unless you state otherwise, every word you write or say is assumed to be your own.
- ◆ **Please consult the Academic Honor Board's [Statement of Policies and Procedures](#) for detailed information about the Academic Honor Code at Mount Holyoke College.**

²Tips and suggestions appear in *Succeeding as an International Student in the United States and Canada* by Charles Lipson (University of Chicago Press, 2008).

Definitions¹

There are several forms of academic misconduct which constitute a violation of the Honor Code. You should familiarize yourself with the following concepts:

PLAGIARISM

Use of another's work or ideas as one's own in academic submissions. Examples: Copying another person's paper, homework, or other work and submitting it as an assignment; copying or paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without properly citing the source.

FABRICATION

Falsification or creation of data, research or resources to support academic submissions. Example: Making up data for an experiment or citing non-existent articles.

CHEATING

Actual or attempted use of resources not authorized by the instructor(s) for academic submissions. Examples: copying answers from a fellow student or looking up answers on a cell phone or tablet during a closed-book exam; conferring with a fellow student about possible answers during an exam.

PROPER USE OF SOURCES

Mount Holyoke has created a special Web site for students called [The Proper Use of Sources](#). Here you will find information on the different forms of plagiarism, proper scholarly procedure for citing sources, and links to helpful Web sites for further information. There is also a special tutorial on the web site for you to complete.

¹Definitions appear in *Academic Integrity at the University of Denver: An Informational Brochure for International Students On Academic Integrity and Excellence* (August 2006).