



**NEW PROFESSIONS
TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**

Cheating and Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism

Students are expected to produce their own original work on each assignment in each class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor. Recycling one's own coursework from one class to another is also considered academic dishonesty.

In cases where an instructor suspects plagiarism, they are required to take appropriate action, including issuing a "penalty grade" for academic dishonesty (see *Consequences* below). Instructors monitor plagiarism using specialized software that detects potential academic integrity violations, including correctly cited content. If citations are properly formatted and attributed, instructors may permit up to 35-40% similarity as reported by the software. However, at least 60% of the student's submission must be original content.

Cheating

Any form of dishonest conduct aimed at gaining an unfair academic advantage is considered cheating. This includes, but is not limited to, copying another student's work, using unauthorized materials during exams, or fabricating data. Like plagiarism, cheating undermines the integrity of the academic environment and will result in disciplinary action.

Consequences

1. **First Offense:** A student found guilty of plagiarism or cheating will receive an "F" for the assignment.
2. **Second Offense:** A student found guilty of plagiarism or cheating a second time will receive an "F" for the course.
3. **Third Offense:** A student found guilty of plagiarism or cheating for a third time will be expelled from the institution, with the student's transcript reflecting the expulsion status.

This policy aims to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and ensure a fair and honest educational experience for all students.

Addendum for the Associate of Science in Nursing Program

The Associate of Science in Nursing program is dedicated to upholding high standards of academic integrity and professionalism. The following addendum outlines additional expectations and consequences specifically for nursing students:

1. **Prohibited Use of Unauthorized Test Bank Study Guides:** Students are prohibited from seeking, using, or purchasing any test bank study guide questions or resources found on unauthorized websites. These materials are considered unauthorized by the Nursing Program as they are intended for instructor use only. Any student found to be using or sharing these resources will be immediately dismissed from the Nursing Program for academic dishonesty.
2. **Cheating Policy:** All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty, particularly on tests and written assignments:
 - a. **First Offense:** Cheating will result in failure of the test or written assignment. A Record of Infraction will be completed by the instructor.
 - b. **Second Offense:** Any repetition of cheating will result in immediate referral to the faculty committee for disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from the program.
 - c. **Collaborative Work:** While students may collaborate on assignments, the final work must be the student's own and should not resemble another student's work. If two assignments bear resemblance, both students will receive a zero.
 - d. **Sharing of Work:** Students who give their work or answers to others during a test, or who engage in talking during an exam, will be considered to have cheated. A zero will be issued to all involved students.

Exam Integrity and Retesting Policy

In our commitment to ensuring academic integrity and fairness, we utilize data forensics to analyze exams and assess potential anomalies in test performance. This includes reviewing exam items and overall scores for aberrant patterns.

Aberrant Score Detection: We reserve the right to reissue an exam if aberrant scores or irregularities are detected through data forensic analysis. This process ensures that all students are fairly evaluated on their understanding of the material.

Significant Score Increases: If a student's score increases significantly compared to their previous testing, we may require them to retest using a different version of the exam. This is to ensure that the student can sufficiently demonstrate content mastery in a consistent manner.

This addendum reinforces the integrity of the nursing profession and ensures that nursing students are held to the highest standards of ethical and professional behavior. Violations will result in immediate and significant consequences, including potential dismissal from the program.