

Ways to Promote a Climate of Academic Integrity in the Classroom

Faculty members can create a climate of academic integrity in their classroom. Here are some useful strategies that faculty can adopt in the classroom to enhance, encourage and promote an atmosphere of integrity.

- Establish clear expectations for every assignment, project and exam.
- Include a statement about your Commitment to Integrity and your expectations about your students' Commitment to Integrity on your syllabus.
- Discuss how using proper citations shows respect for other scholars.
- Be a role model: Cite sources in your lectures.
- Encourage students to come to you if they are confused about citation practices or other research standards.
- Make sure your students understand not only what counts as plagiarism and cheating but also how to avoid engaging in these practices. Talk to them about managing their time, taking notes correctly, and using the Internet appropriately.
- Explain your expectations clearly. Provide written guidelines about collaborating with peers, citing sources, using notes or exams from previous classes, and accessing information during an examination.
- Assign focused and specific research topics and don't allow last-minute changes of topic.
- Reduce the opportunities and hence the temptation to cheat on exams; one method for doing so is changing exam questions often.
- Act on suspected cases of academic integrity violations—students interpret inaction as a lack of caring about the issue.