

What is academic integrity?

The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work; nor should you help others to do the same. For example, it is prohibited to: share your past assignments and answers with other students; work with other students on an assignment when an instructor has not expressly given permission; or spread information through word of mouth, social media, websites, or other channels that subverts the fair evaluation of a class exercise, or assessment.

Why is academic integrity important?

The course teaching team, UBC, and the scholarly community at large share an understanding of the ethical ways that we use to produce knowledge. A core practice of this shared value of academic integrity is that we acknowledge the contributions of others to our own work, but it also means we produce our own contributions that add to the scholarly conversation: we don't buy or copy papers or exams, or have someone else edit them. We also don't falsify data or sources, or hand in the same work in more than one course.

As a student, your number one task is to learn new things. Just like your professors, however, you are a member of a university scholarly community. As a part of this community, you are responsible for engaging with existing knowledge and contributing ideas of your own. Academics—including you!—build knowledge through rigorous research that expands on the contributions of others, both in the faraway past and around the world today. This is called scholarship. Academic integrity, in short, means being an honest, diligent, and responsible scholar. This includes:

- Taking exams without cheating.
- Completing assignments independently or acknowledging collaboration when appropriate. Collaboration through group work is an effective way to learn. I will clearly indicate when you should collaborate, for example on some online homework assignments.
- Creating and expressing your own original ideas.

- Engaging with the ideas of others, both past and present, in a variety of scholarly platforms such as research journals, books by academics, lectures, etc.
- Explicitly acknowledging the sources of your knowledge, especially through accurate citation practices.

What should I know about sharing course materials?

We are working hard to provide all the materials you need to succeed in this course. In return, please respect our work. All assignment instructions, quiz questions and answers, discussion questions, announcements, PowerPoint slides, audio/video recordings, Canvas modules, and any other materials provided to you by the Teaching Team or in the textbook are for use in this course by students currently enrolled in ATSC 313. It is *unacceptable* to share any of these materials beyond our course, including by posting on file-sharing websites (e.g., CourseHero, Google Docs). It is *unacceptable* to copy and paste sentences from the textbook or course material (e.g., definitions) into for-profit software (e.g., Quizlet) for use in studying. Respect the Teaching Team and textbook authors' intellectual property, and follow [copyright law](#).

What happens when academic integrity is breached?

Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred for consideration for academic discipline. Careful records are kept to monitor and prevent recurrences. Any instance of cheating or taking credit for someone else's work, whether intentionally or unintentionally, can and often will result in at minimum a grade of zero for the assignment, and these cases will be reported to the Head of the Department of EOAS and Associate Dean Students of the Faculty of Science.

What support is available?

Feel free to ask me about academic integrity. Part of my job is to guide your growth as a scholar, and I would much rather you ask for clarification than unintentionally engage in academic misconduct, which has serious consequences. If you are unsure about what constitutes academic misconduct, please reach out to me via my email provided on the Instructors page.

Sometimes students who are experiencing a lot of stress feel the only way to deal with a situation is to cheat. Please do not do this. Talk to me, and I am sure we can work something out together.

To help you learn your responsibilities as a scholar, please read and understand UBC's expectations for academic honesty in the UBC Calendar: "[Academic Honesty](#)," "[Academic Misconduct](#)," and "[Disciplinary Measures](#)". Read and reflect on the [Student Declaration and Responsibility](#).

For written assignments and help with plagiarism and citation, see the [Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication](#).

Additional resources for learning with integrity can be found on the UBC [Academic Integrity Website](#).

Many course activities and some assignments are designed to be completed in groups, allowing you to work with your peers. Other assignments are individual, and you are expected to complete these by working individually and writing in your own words. It is unacceptable to have others write assignments on your behalf, to write assignments on others' behalf, to copy other students' work, or to allow other students to copy your work.

The use of generative AI tools, including ChatGPT and other similar tools, to complete or support the completion of any form of assignment or assessment in this course is not allowed and would be considered academic misconduct.

Students are permitted to use artificial intelligence tools, including generative AI, to gather information, review concepts or to help produce assignments. However, students are ultimately accountable for the work they submit. Use of AI tools is not permitted during midterm exams and final exams in this course.