

Academic Integrity & Plagiarism

Academic integrity is about mastering the art of scholarship. Scholarship involves researching, understanding and building upon the work of others and requires that you give credit where it is due and acknowledge the contributions of others to your own intellectual efforts.

At its core, academic integrity requires honesty. This involves being responsible for ethical scholarship and for knowing what academic dishonesty is and how to avoid it.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; e.g., using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source; using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation; copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.academicintegrity.utas.edu.au>

Self-copying/Re-submission of assessment. It is inappropriate to copy your own work, in part or in whole, and submit it for assessment in more than one Unit of study at this, or another, university. This also applies to students repeating a Unit. Unless otherwise approved, all assessment tasks undertaken in a unit must be done within the enrolment period.

Group work. It is important that all group members make appropriate contributions to the required task. Copying from others, or contributing less, little or nothing to a group assignment and then claiming an equal share of the marks are not appropriate. When working as a member of a group or team, it is important to keep records of your own work. Even though you may have group discussions and work together – always write your own notes, and keep records what you have personally contributed to any group assessment product/s.

Collusion. Protect your academic work. The intentional sharing of your work potentially allows others to copy your work and cheat and gain an academic advantage. In these circumstances, both you and the person that copied your work may be subject to allegations of academic misconduct.

Falsification and fabrication of data

Academic writing. Increasingly the use of patient data and reflection on experience are embedded in assessment tasks. The falsification and fabrication of student experiences that form the basis of assessment tasks (such as reflective essays) are inconsistent with academic integrity. This may include the fabrication or misrepresentation of patient encounters, interactions with peers, staff or members of the community. The creation of records of experiences for which there is no basis in fact, that misleads or deceives the reader/assessor, is a break of academic integrity and the standards expected of health professionals and University of Tasmania graduates.

Experimental Sciences. In addition to plagiarism, responsible and ethical conduct of research requires that all researchers have confidence in research undertaken and reported to peers. The falsification and fabrication of data are inconsistent with academic integrity. Falsification of data refers to the selective modification of data collected in the conduct of experimental research, or the misrepresentation of processes or uncertainty during statistical analysis of the data. Falsification may

also involve the selective omission, deletion, or suppression of data inconsistent with the research objectives. Fabrication of data refers to the creation of records of research for which there is no basis in fact, that misleads or deceives the reader/assessor, is a breach of academic integrity and the standards expected of health professionals and University of Tasmania graduates.

Penalties.

Breaches of academic integrity are serious offences punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. In some cases, students of the health professions may be notified to the Australian Health Professional Regulatory Authority (AHPRA).

Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>

The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.