



Category: Students
Policy: Policy 204 Plagiarism
Approved date: January 2016
Revised date: Nov 2020

Plagiarism (Violation of Academic Integrity) Policy

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

ASCEND Online students are expected to act with “academic integrity” in all aspects of their education. In general, “academic integrity” means students always do their own work and submit assignments that contain their own ideas. When referencing work and ideas from other sources, these contributions must be properly cited using an established and approved format. Plagiarism and “cheating” are violations of academic integrity and can have serious consequences.

DEFINITIONS AND EXAMPLES

The *BC For High School* website says:

There are rules about academic integrity and cheating. Breaking these rules has serious consequences.

Here are some examples of breaking the rules:

- Copying from a fellow student’s work or test, or allowing them to copy your work;
- Plagiarism: using someone else’s words or ideas without acknowledging they are not your own;
- Handing in another student’s work as your own;
- Handing in material downloaded from the Internet. ¹



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CREDIT AND CITATION

Credit must always be given to the author(s) of work that is not one's own. In written assignments, this usually takes the form of a proper citation. The proper use of citations gives due credit to the original author(s) of material being used and allows the reader to locate and view the original work that is being referenced.

There are a number of acceptable citation formats and styles (APA, MLA, etc.). Be sure to check with your teacher regarding the best format to use in your work.

CONSEQUENCES OF PLAGIARISM OR OTHER VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

If a teacher suspects that a student has violated this academic integrity policy, they will contact the student to discuss the concern. Subsequently, if it is deemed that a violation has occurred, any or all of the following may occur:

1. A "0" may be assigned to the assignment, project or test.
2. The student may be asked to redo the assignment, project or test or complete one that is similar.
3. The student's parent(s) may be notified.
4. The school administration may be notified and/or consulted.
5. A discipline report may go in the student file.
6. The student may receive a "0" for the course.



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In cases where a student has violated academic integrity, the student's teacher will use their professional judgement in determining an appropriate consequence and will consider such factors as intention, form, previous violations, the extent of the academic dishonesty, and the student discipline record.

Giving a student a "0" for the course requires the consultation and approval by the principal.

In all cases, the overall intent of this policy is to promote and ensure the highest possible level of academic integrity among ASCEND Online students, at all times.

¹ *BC For High School*, bcforhighschool.gov.bc.ca/en/tile/academic-integrity-plagiarism-and-cheating/.