

Understanding the factors that contribute to academic misconduct is essential for faculty. By making intentional pedagogical adjustments, instructors can better support student learning and promote adherence to GVSU's high standards of academic integrity.

HOW FACULTY CAN PREVENT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

UNDERSTANDING CAUSES

Students are more likely to engage in academic misconduct when they:

- Are unclear about course or assignment expectations;
- Do not fully understand what constitutes academic misconduct;
- Lack the skills needed to use materials/information/aids responsibly;
- Fear failure or experience pressure from high-stakes assessments;
- Misuse tools, including AI, which can be considered cheating or plagiarism.

SET STUDENTS UP FOR SUCCESS

Small adjustments can help students avoid academic misconduct:

- Include a syllabus statement that defines academic misconduct with links to the GVSU Student Code: The Anchor of Student Rights & Responsibilities;
- Provide clear instruction on how to properly cite sources;
- Be specific about what types of materials/information/aids and collaboration (including peer support and AI tools) are permitted;
- Offer opportunities for students to practice and, when possible, retake quizzes;
- Direct students to University resources for academic support (e.g., the Writing Center, Knowledge Market, Student Academic Success Center, and tutoring services.)

USE COURSE AND ASSIGNMENT DESIGN TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

When designing courses, consider common factors that contribute to academic misconduct. Support students in avoiding these pitfalls through intentional and thoughtful course design:

- Keep course materials updated to limit AI-generated responses;
- Create questions that are unique to your course and student context;
- Scaffold assignments to encourage sustained engagement and reduce reliance on shortcut solutions;
- Link assignments to course learning outcomes to emphasize their purpose;
- Set reasonable time limits on exams to discourage use of unauthorized tools such as AI;
- Use varied question formats and randomized items to deter AI-aided or collaborative cheating;
- Reduce temptation by using exam proctoring tools such as Respondus Lockdown Browser or Proctorio.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Pew Faculty Teaching & Learning Center: gvsu.edu/ftlc
- Knowledge Market: gvsu.edu/library/km/
- Student Academic Success Center: gvsu.edu/sasc
- Writing Center: gvsu.edu/wc
- Tutoring: gvsu.edu/tutoring/

Our approach is grounded in educational principles, restorative practices, and the promotion of ethical development.