Students Speak Out on Academic Integrity

SFU is committed to creating an environment of zero tolerance for academic dishonesty.

Most students do not cheat. However, it is important for SFU students to take a full and active role in protecting the academic honesty of the university community, of their discipline and department, and of their own individual academic integrity.

What can you do?

Some ideas on how students can take responsibility for their personal academic integrity:
- **Protect your own work**, make sure that no one has access to your work either through a draft paper, preliminary assignment computations, or by sitting beside you in an exam.
- **Don’t be afraid to ask questions** about plagiarism.
- **Discipline-specific requirements may make a difference** as to how something is perceived. For example, group work is encouraged in some disciplines and considered academic dishonesty in others. You need to know what is acceptable to your instructor.
- **It is part of the learning process to know how to correctly cite references**, quote sources or show your own work correctly. You need to know how to balance your own ideas with established areas of knowledge.

What are the resources available?

- **See your instructor first to ask for help**, guidelines, references or other resources that might be specific to your course.
- **Take advantage of extra study sessions or workshops** put on by your department, instructor or teaching assistant.
- **Don’t be afraid to ask specific questions** about avoiding plagiarism.
- **If** there are reasons that you might not be able to meet a deadline, you must communicate with your instructor in advance to seek alternatives.
- **There are on-campus resources** that can help you with study skills:
  - Student Learning Commons: learningcommons.sfu.ca
  - SFU Library: library.sfu.ca

Here are some examples of Dos and Don'ts for academic integrity:

**Do:**
- Do and submit your own work.
- Ensure others cannot copy or steal your work or your answers.
- Report theft of your work to your instructor.
- Use only material approved by the instructor during an open or closed book exam.
- Consult your instructor if you intend to submit material you have done for another course.

**Don't:**
- Hand in someone else’s work as your own work.
- Fail to take reasonable measures to protect your answers during an examination and your assignments.
- Steal or destroy the work of another student.
- Submit work done for another course.

If you have any more questions, ask your instructor! For more information, visit our website at www.sfu.ca/students/academicintegrity