

Scholastic Honesty

The NDSU policy on scholastic honesty is in the *Bulletin*. In this course we adhere to the letter and spirit of that policy. The web page you are reading, then, adds to and specifies within that policy and in no way supplants it.

The Internet and Scholastic Honesty

Much of the work in this course is traditional in format, and the rules for acceptable behavior are defined and known. On the other hand, the work is submitted via the Internet, which raises some issues.

You are asked to submit assignments using social media. It's obvious that anyone could cheat on this, could have someone else post the required assignments, and in most cases get away with it. It isn't something I lose sleep over. There are three things to keep in mind about this.

1. Cheating is possible, often with impunity, on any assignment not done under in-class supervision. The Internet is conceptually no different in this regard. It's just that people have a sort of anything-goes attitude about digital communications that sometimes affects behavior.
2. There is every chance that someone who cheats on assignments will get tripped up. I read the stuff that comes in and often ask follow-up questions in class. Suppose you wrote, or rather didn't write but had someone else write for you, an assignment, and I read it, and then I brought it to class and said, "This is a fascinating but somewhat cryptic observation you have made, Ms. Tollefson. Could you explain what you mean in more detail?"
3. Honesty and dishonesty have their own rewards.

Cases of Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty is neither expected nor tolerated. Scholastic dishonesty, as far as this course is concerned, includes

- Plagiarism, commonly defined as "presenting the words, thoughts, or ideas of another person as your own."
- Fabrication, that is, falsification of information or citations.
- Helping anyone else commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Students suspected of cheating will be required to write a make-up. Students caught cheating or aiding someone else in cheating will receive an F on the assignment, or in more egregious cases, an F for the course. In such cases a notice and explanation will be sent to the student's academic advisor and to the dean of the student's college. Scholastic dishonesty can result in suspension or expulsion from the university.

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