

Assessment & Measurement

Facilitating Academic Integrity in Online Environments

Academic integrity is students' commitment to an ethical code of *honesty, trust, and responsibility* in academic settings.

Common Reasons Students Cheat:

1. Work is not meaningful
2. Lack of desire to engage
3. Pressure to maintain high grades
4. An over-emphasis on high-stakes tests

What can teachers do to promote academic integrity in online environments?



Teach Students About Academic Integrity

Intentionally plan for conversations about academic integrity. Talk with students about ethics and ethical academic behavior, making sure to identify how cheating often occurs in online environments.

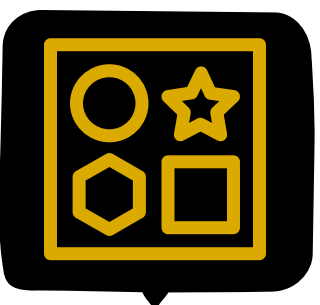
Example: Provide and discuss examples of academic dishonesty.



Cultivate Growth Mindsets

Prioritize student growth over academic achievement. Affirm academic desire, effort, and progress to propel future growth.

Example: Write a student note affirming their desire, effort, or progress.



Adapt Assessments

Adapt traditional assessment methods to allow for options in exhibiting knowledge and skill mastery. When possible, utilize open-ended questions that do not have a fixed answer.

Example: Use project-based learning and encourage students to demonstrate their knowledge in multiple ways.



Intentionally Use Digital Tools

Incorporating digital tools in online environments can engage students, increasing their motivation to participate in direct instruction and collaborative activities.

Example: Use online polls and quizzes for regular in-the-moment assessment.



In what ways could you teach, model, and support academic integrity in your class?

References

- Bendici, R. (2020, November 02). *How to Stop Cheating in Remote Learning*. <https://www.techlearning.com/how-to/how-to-stop-cheating-in-remote-learning>
- Simmons, A. (2018, April 27). *Why Students Cheat—and What to Do About It*. <https://www.edutopia.org/article/why-students-cheat-and-what-do-about-it>