

ABOUT INTELLECTUAL HONESTY AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

Welcome to a new academic year. In each of your course syllabi you will learn valuable information about the structure of the course and the learning expectations. Additionally, you will find information in each syllabus related to academic integrity. Are you wondering about how to write papers without getting into trouble on academic integrity? There's help!

Have a look at www.academicintegrity.dal.ca! There is an awesome section called Student Resources that has information on paraphrasing and citing in your work, as well as a list of services here at Dal that can help you with academic integrity issues. You can also find information on the Faculty of Health Profession's academic integrity website (www.dal.ca/fhp/academicintegrity). Many of the academic allegations we receive from course instructors are about plagiarism - students not giving adequate acknowledgement in the submission of their written work about the work of others. It doesn't really matter if a student has done similar work in other courses and has never been questioned. It's like shoplifting. Someone may do this many times and never be stopped by the security guard; it's still shoplifting. Written words, whether on the web, in hard copy, or in another student's assignment, are someone's property. The consequences can include failing the assignment, failing the course and/or a notation on your transcript! Be sure you know how to acknowledge paraphrasing and quotations in your work. Remember references alone are insufficient. If you are unsure about your work, check out www.academicintegrity.dal.ca, and talk to your course instructors about their expectations. Don't wait until you hear from the Academic Integrity Officer!

There are other important regulations about academic integrity that affect how you do your course work and write exams. The regulations are in the graduate and undergraduate university calendars under University Regulations, see <u>Intellectual Honesty and Academic Dishonesty</u>. You are responsible for knowing these policies and acting accordingly.

Pay attention to the issues around lending your work out to others, and completing group assignments. You are responsible and accountable for your work. If another student violates academic integrity in using your work, you may also be culpable.

If you are unsure about academic integrity and your work, ASK your course instructor, see a librarian, and find out about writing workshops (www.writingcentre.dal.ca).

Make it a great academic year! Work at your best.

Brenda Merritt, PhD

Associate Dean (Academic)

Academic Integrity Officer