

Understanding the Academic Integrity Policy: Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How does the new Academic Integrity Policy differ from the old policy?

A. The most significant change is in the adjudication of nonseparable academic integrity (AI) offenses. Under the former policy, all academic integrity violations, whether separable or nonseparable, were administered through the disciplinary process described in the [University Code of Student Conduct \(UCSC\)](#). Under the new policy, faculty members now have the authority to investigate and adjudicate nonseparable AI violations involving undergraduate students. Separable violations and those involving graduate students will continue to be adjudicated according to the process described in the UCSC.

Q. What is the difference between a separable and a nonseparable AI violation?

A. Separable violations are Level 3 and 4 AI violations, which may result in suspension or expulsion from the University. Nonseparable violations are Level 1 and 2 AI violations; the possible sanctions for these offenses do not include suspension or expulsion.

For detailed descriptions of separable and nonseparable violations, see the [Academic Integrity Policy: Levels of Violations and Recommended Sanctions](#).

Q. What is the process for faculty adjudication of AI cases?

A. If a faculty member suspects a student of academic dishonesty, he or she will notify the student in writing. The student will have ten working days to respond. The faculty member will then meet with the student, review the relevant evidence, and make a determination of responsibility. If the student is found not responsible, the matter is closed. If the student is found responsible, the faculty member will recommend an academic sanction. If the student accepts the finding and recommended sanction, the sanction is imposed and the Office of Student Judicial Affairs is notified of the outcome.

For a detailed description of this process, see the [Academic Integrity Policy: Adjudication of Alleged Nonseparable Violations](#).

A faculty member may choose not to adjudicate a nonseparable violation; in this case, the above process is conducted by an Academic Integrity Facilitator (see the [Academic Integrity Policy: Adjudication by an Academic Integrity Facilitator](#)).

Q. What if a student contests the allegations made by the faculty member?

A. The student has the opportunity to contest the charges and to present evidence and witnesses in his or her defense during the meeting with the faculty member. If the student contests the faculty member's finding or recommended sanction, he or she may file an

appeal with the Academic Integrity Review Committee. For more information on the appeal process, see the [Academic Integrity Policy: Review by the Academic Integrity Review Committee](#).

Q. What rights do students have under the new policy?

A. Students have the right to:

1. Have alleged violations of academic integrity handled according to the procedures described in the Academic Integrity Policy.
2. Written notice of any allegation of an academic integrity violation.
3. Respond to allegations and to present evidence and witnesses in their defense.
4. Appeal a finding of responsibility or sanction to the Academic Integrity Review Committee.