**Academic Dishonesty at HSC**

**What is academic dishonesty?** While full definitions are found in the Student Code of Conduct and Civility (“the Code,” [HSC Policy 7.105](https://unthsc.navexone.com/content/dotNet/documents/?docid=816&public=true)) academic dishonesty is a blanket term that covers the following:

* Cheating – use of unauthorized assistance, resubmission of work, and engaging in acts designed to give an unfair advantage
* Plagiarism – use of another’s thoughts, words, or ideas without proper attribution
* Forgery – altering a score, grade, or HSC record or forging a signature of an instructor or student
* Fabrication – falsifying or manufacturing information, data or research
* Facilitation – helping or assisting another student engage in academic dishonesty
* Sabotage – preventing or disrupting another student’s academic work

**What do I do if I suspect a student engaged in academic dishonesty?** If you suspect a student has engaged in academic dishonesty, make a report as soon as reasonably possible by visiting [www.unthsc.edu/personofconcern](http://www.unthsc.edu/personofconcern). A Student Conduct Officer (SCO) will review the report and ask for any additional information needed. If the behavior could be a violation of The Code, the SCO will engage the student conduct process by sending a Notice of Complaint to the student. A faculty member reporting academic dishonesty in their course will be copied on the Notice of Complaint and Notice of Outcome issued to the student.

**How does academic dishonesty impact a student’s grades?** The conduct process will provide a determination of responsibility and assign appropriate disciplinary action(s) to students found responsible for violating the code. At the end of the conduct process (including any reviews), an instructor may award partial or no credit for an assignment or assessment on which a student engaged in academic dishonesty. An instructor may assign a failing grade for a course in which a student has engaged in academic dishonesty. We strongly encourage instructors to discuss appropriate penalties with their college leadership. If grades must be assigned before the conduct process has concluded (including appeals), a ‘Z’ grade can be assigned as a placeholder.

**Are students allowed to use artificial intelligence (AI) on coursework?** AI can be a powerful tool, and learning outcomes may include skill mastery in working with various AI tools. To that end, HSC does not have a blanket policy related to AI use. Instructors may decide what resources students are authorized to use in a course or on a particular assignment. We encourage open communication in the form of syllabus statements and specific assignment instructions regarding expectations related to AI use. If students do not know a resource is prohibited, it may not be a violation of the Code.

**This is a lot of information! Can I talk to someone about the process or about a specific case?** Of course! Instructors are welcome to email [studentconduct@unthsc.edu](mailto:studentconduct@unthsc.edu) with any questions they have. They may also contact a Student Conduct Officer regarding any questions related to an ongoing conduct case. While an instructor does not have blanket access to a student’s records, in situations where the instructor has a business need to know information (e.g. for the assignment of grades), a conduct officer will be able to provide some information to an instructor so they can perform the responsibilities of their position.