Hurdles on the path towards academic integrity: Simple ways to clear the jump
Overview of session

• Brief introductions
• What is academic integrity?
  – Why should students care about academic integrity?
  – What are the university teacher’s responsibilities with regards to academic integrity?
• Discussion
  – What are some barriers to promoting academic integrity?
  – What strategies have you used to promote academic integrity and increase learning?
• Wrapping-up
  – Where can you get teaching resources?
Academic Integrity

honesty
trust
fairness
responsibility
respect
courage

academicintegrity.org

Image source:
Web. 30 September 2015
<http://www.lifeofanarchitect.com/architects-and-integrity/>
Why should students care about academic integrity?

• Eliminates unfair advantage between students
• Foundation of a university degree
• Builds moral character
• Prepares students for future life and work demands
What are the university teacher’s responsibilities with regards to academic integrity?

• The university community has the collective responsibility to provide an effective learning environment.

• Your individual responsibilities include:
  
  • maintaining familiarity with policies regarding academic integrity
  
  • fulfilling instructional duties with academic integrity
  
  • providing a course outline which includes reference to academic integrity, statements on dishonesty, and articulating course expectations
What are some barriers to promoting academic integrity?
1. Students with varying levels of understanding of academic integrity ("expectation gap")
   (United Planet, 2013)

2. Fear of violating faculty/department norms or creating tension/disagreement over proper responses
   (Martin, 2007)

3. Ambiguity – when to stand firm and when to compromise based on circumstance
   (University of Waterloo, 2012)
Hurdles

4. Too much paperwork, or disciplinary process is too confusing and/or time-consuming

(Martin, 2007)

Photo credit: Heather (2011)

5. Concerns about speaking or relating to students

(Martin, 2007)

Photo credit: Kraal (2011)

6. Not knowing how to implement teaching strategies to promote academic integrity and increase learning

(Weimer, 2015)

Photo credit: Smith (2014)
What strategies have you used to promote academic integrity and increase learning?
Clear the jump

Provide opportunities to discuss academic integrity*

Communicate your course expectations clearly

Include the academic integrity policy on your syllabus*

*resources available at the Centre
Provide more opportunities for students to demonstrate what they’ve learned

Provide easy access to study materials

Clear the jump

Use a variety of assessment methods

Ask students to read and sign a contract stating that they have read and understand the Student Discipline Bylaw*

Establish a personal connection with students, both in class and through regular email or UM

Learn communications

Invite a Librarian or a specialist from the Academic Learning Centre to give a presentation on working with sources

*resources available at the Centre
Where can you get resources?

The Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning
umanitoba.ca/catl

Academic Learning Centre
umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/

Student Advocacy
umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy/