Functions of the Honor Council

1. Educating the Student Body
2. Investigating and Resolving Academic Misconduct Allegations
3. Publication
2020-2021 Honor Council

Anita Kay Head, Chair
Professor Yuri Linetsky
Professor Ben McMichael
Ian Burt, 3L
Chenelle Jones, 3L
Lucas Lopez, 2L
Sarah Ming, 2L
Accessing the Honor Code
“Students, faculty members, and administrators **must** report suspected academic misconduct in violation of this Code to a member of the Honor Council for investigation and resolution by the Council.”

1. Contact a member of the Honor Council or

2. Email the Council: 

   honorcouncil@law.ua.edu
Student Ombudsperson

Benton Hughes, 3L

• Assists any student with issues reported to the Council, including during any appeal

• May seek advisory information from the Council involving the interpretation of the Honor Code
Academic Misconduct

“Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academic matter.”
Academic Matters

• “All activities related to coursework”
  – Drafts
  – Intermediate assignments or exercises

• Non-classroom activities
  – Competition for journals, trial and appellate advocacy teams
  – Externships
“This Code covers both intentional and non-intentional academic misconduct.”

“Tolerating or Facilitating such misconduct is a violation itself.”
The Process

- **Report**
- **Investigation**
  - Witnesses
  - Students and Faculty
  - Interview with Accused
  - Document Review
- **Decision**
- **Appeal**
Potential Pitfalls

• Course Syllabi Policies
  – Falsifying Class Attendance

• Exams
  – Proctoring requirements or software
  – Continuing to type after time expires
  – Consulting unauthorized materials during the exam

• Papers/Projects
  – Unauthorized collaboration
  – Submissions of the same work in more than one course
  – Plagiarism
General Rules to Avoid Plagiarism in Law School

1. Acknowledge direct use of someone else’s words.
2. Acknowledge any paraphrase of someone else’s words.
3. Acknowledge direct use of someone else’s idea.
4. Acknowledge an idea or conclusion that grows from someone else’s work.

About Your Legal Writing Assignments

• Err on the side of too much attribution.
• Read your oath before you start.
  – Violating an oath is academic misconduct and subject to sanctions under the Honor Code.
• Ask your LW Professor!
  – Anonymity concerns? Ask Professor Head (or Professor Boone, if you’re in Section 5 or 6).
Nonacademic Misconduct

• Governed by the Student Handbook
• Self-Reporting Requirements: page 38
  – “within a reasonable time, which usually will be within seven calendar days of the initial reportable incident”
  – Report in writing to the Dean of Academic Affairs
    Dean Grace Lee
    glee@law.ua.edu
• Reporting Nonacademic Misconduct of other students
Professionalism and Non-Academic Misconduct

- Student Handbook
- SBA Constitution and By-Laws
- Professors as Recommenders
- Affiants for State Bar applications
- Classmates as your future colleagues
QUESTIONS?

EMAIL ahead@law.ua.edu

Don’t forget to mark your attendance on the Google Doc sent by email.