

Honor Council Workshop

October 5, 2017

A decorative graphic consisting of a solid teal horizontal bar that transitions into a series of three thin, parallel white lines on the right side of the slide.

Functions of the Honor Council

1. Education of the Student Body

The Honor Council will strive to inform and advise students on the best practices to avoid academic misconduct throughout their legal education and in preparation for the practice of law.

2. Resolution of Allegations of Academic Misconduct

The Honor Council will investigate and resolve allegations of academic misconduct as described in Section III.

3. Publication

As necessary to educate the Student Body, the Honor Council may publish redacted summaries of its decisions or advisory interpretations.

2017-18 Honor Council

Mary Ksobiech, Chair
Professor Yuri Linetsky
Professor Meredith Render
Cecilia Appleberry, 3L
Ben Venable, 3L
Shea Davis, 2L
Courtney Hall, 2L

Reporting Suspected Honor Code Violations

“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.”

How To Report:

1. Contact a member of the Honor Council or
2. Email the Council: honorcouncil@law.ua.edu

Student Ombudsperson

Ben Obomanu, 3L

- Assists any student with issues reported to the Council, including during any appeal, and
- May seek advisory information from the Council involving the interpretation of this Code.

Academic Misconduct



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

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Academic matters include:

All activities related to coursework, including:
drafts and other intermediate assignments or exercises,
whether submitted to a professor or to other students;

Non-classroom activities, such as:
competition for journal membership, trial and appellate
advocacy teams and participation in those activities;
participation in externships; and
other such activities.

This Code covers both intentional and non-intentional academic misconduct.

Tolerating or Facilitating such misconduct is a violation itself.

Most Common Issues

- Exams
 - Continuing to type after time is called.
 - Bringing unauthorized materials into the exam.
- Papers/Projects
 - Unauthorized collaboration
 - Multiple Submissions of the Same work
 - Plagiarism

General Rules for Working With Authority

- Avoiding allegations of plagiarism requires knowing when to cite:
 - 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.
- Legal Writing Institute, Law School Plagiarism v. Proper Attribution (2003)

Am I going to violate the Honor Code on my Legal Writing assignment?

- Err on the side of too much attribution.
- Read your oath. You can violate LW or Research rules even if you don't violate the Honor Code.
- Ask your LW professor!
 - If you are worried about anonymity, ask Professor Ksobiech
 - If you are in Ksobiech's section, ask Professor Boone

Nonacademic Misconduct



Nonacademic Misconduct

- The Law School Student Handbook requires that law students promptly disclose to the Law School's Dean of Academic Affairs various sorts of misconduct not covered by the Honor Code.
- Within a reasonable amount of time (usually 7 days)
Refer to page 48 of the student handbook
Will Need a Written Disclosure

Questions?