

Academic Misconduct suspected by marker or invigilator

Academic Misconduct is defined as acts or omissions by a student that would give them an unfair advantage in assessment. This includes plagiarism, collusion and contract cheating. If academic misconduct is suspected, the University will follow this process to investigate.

It is important that you access support from the WSU Advice Centre at this stage. As we are independent from the University, your Advisor is able to support you with putting your case together and attend any meetings with you as your SU Representative.

Academic Conduct Panel (ACP)

If academic misconduct is suspected, your department will host an in-house academic misconduct panel to determine whether there is a case to answer. The panel can suggest the following:

No case to answer

Poor academic practice

There is evidence of poor academic practice, but not academic misconduct.

In this case, the assessed piece of work will be marked on merit.

Suspected academic misconduct

If Academic Misconduct is found, the panel will recommend a sanction suggestions to the Head of Department. The Head of Department will confirm the sanction. In more complex cases, the Panel can refer it to a Academic Integrity Panel.

Reduction in marks

A reduction in mark for the assessed work to reflect the impact of the academic misconduct. The mark may be reduced down to zero.

Capped resubmission

Require re-submission of the original work for a capped mark.

Resubmission of new work

Require re-submission of a new piece of work for a reduced or capped mark.

Referral to Academic Integrity Panel (AIP)

An ACP can request for a case to be referred to an AIP, if they are unable to reach a decision either due to complexities and/or the severity of the misconduct.

Reasons to request decision review via AIP

If the student is not satisfied with the top 3 outcomes of the ACP (as seen above), they can request for their case to be reviewed by an AIP, if they have grounds (to be discussed with Advice Centre).

That the student is in possession of relevant evidence which was not available to the panel at the time of its decision. In this instance, the student must provide a reasonable explanation for why the evidence was not made available earlier.

There is evidence of prejudice or bias on the part of the panel.

There is evidence of procedural irregularity in the conduct of the panel.

Academic Integrity Panel Outcomes

Withdrawal (temporary or permanent)

Recommend to the Academic Registrar that the student be withdrawn from the University, either for a temporary period or permanently.

Investigation of previous work

Determine that the student's previous work, for which credits had already been accumulated, is to be investigated for academic misconduct by their respective department.

No submission allowed

Determine that a student shall have no right to resubmit, or remedy failure with respect to, the piece or pieces of work in respect of which the case was referred to the AIC.

If not satisfied with the AIP Decision, you have the right to appeal

Appeals Panel - The Appeal Panel will come to a determination based on the merit of the appeal and they will either

Accept

Reject

Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA)

If a student is not satisfied with the outcome of their appeal, they are able to take their case to the OIA.

Submit enquiry

