



Bluefield State  
C O L L E G E

## **Academic Integrity**

All electronic communications equipment is to be turned to the “off” position and placed in a purse, backpack, or other storage compartment prior to entering laboratory or classroom settings, unless individual exceptions are made by the instructor. Students should be aware that the handling of such equipment in a laboratory or classroom could make them vulnerable to charges of violation of standards of academic honesty.

Students should make note of the fact that any form of “tampering” (marking or altering in any way other than instructed) with materials distributed in connection with classroom or laboratory tests of evaluations shall be considered a form of academic dishonesty. Students committing such actions are subject to penalties ranging from assignment of a failing grade to dismissal from the course. Other statements regarding standards of academic integrity are contained in the Student Handbook/Planner, in instructors’ course syllabi, and under the “Academic Dishonesty” section of this catalog.

## **Academic Dishonesty (Plagiarism, cheating, falsifying records, etc.)**

Charges of academic dishonesty on the part of a student may be filed by any member of the academic community. Such charges shall be reviewed first at the departmental and/or School level by the Dean, faculty member, and student involved with a maximum penalty of a grade of “F” in the course. If the penalty is “F”, then the student does not have the option to withdraw from the course. The faculty member must notify the Registrar so the “F” grade can be placed on the student’s academic record.

If the student denies guilt, or the Dean feels the penalties at this step are insufficient for a specific act, the case shall be forwarded in writing to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. The case may be resolved at this level, or if considered by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or requested in writing by the student, the case shall be forwarded to the Academics Committee.

The Academics Committee shall present to the accused student, and the person making the accusation, written notification of the charges, which shall include:

- A statement that a hearing will be held before the Academics Committee, together with the notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing.
- A clear statement of the facts and evidence to be presented in support of the charges made.

A recommendation by the Academics Committee for imposition of sanctions in a case of academic dishonesty is final. The Academics Committee may also recommend that the imposition of sanctions be held in abeyance where appropriate.

## **Student Honor Code**

Each Student should read and adhere to the Honor Code Statement, shown below, as instructed, for each course in which he/she is enrolled:

***I affirm that I have read and understand the Bluefield State College General Catalog statements on academic integrity and academic dishonesty, and the Student Handbook/Planner statements on plagiarism and records. I am responsible for the work that I submit herewith. I am also ethically responsible for maintaining the academic integrity statement by reporting any instances of academic dishonesty to the appropriate faculty member or administrator.***

Source: Academic Catalog 2018-2019, Academic Standards  
(<https://catalog.bluefieldstate.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=74>)