



Information on The Honor Code & International Students

Office of International Students & Scholars

Revised June 27, 2016

Different Cultural Understandings about Classroom Behavior

Duke University's student-run newspaper, *The Chronicle*, in its August 31, 2000 article entitled "International students learn Honor Code basics," suggested that some students enrolling at Duke may have been taught in their home countries not to ask questions of their teachers. Unfortunately, such an understanding of appropriate classroom behavior could create serious problems at Rice, not only academically but regarding university rules. It is important to understand that you should communicate with professors whenever you have questions regarding work and *how to do* the work for a particular class.

Variations in the Honor Code between Courses

Each course and each instructor may have different rules with respect to collaboration with other students and the correct way to cite sources used for work. It is the student's responsibility to ask questions of the professor about the boundaries of the Honor Code in each class and reach clarity on what is considered an Honor Code violation. Your first source of information about the Honor Code for any particular course is the professor.

THE HONOR PLEDGE

"On my Honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this [exam/paper/etc.]" *Student Signature*

Possible Consequences of Violating the Honor Code

The Honor Council at Rice takes violations of the Honor Code very seriously. When assessing penalties, the Council does not decrease punishments for any of the following reasons:

- New student status,
- Ignorance of the Honor Code,
- Academic stress,
- External effects of the penalty,
- Remorse or signs of rehabilitation.

Therefore, the possible consequences of violating the Honor Code can vary from student to student. They may be harsher or less harsh for any given student, depending on his or her circumstances. But all students could be affected in the following ways by a violation:

- GPA
- Scholarships
- Athletic eligibility
- Graduate school
- Early withdrawal fee for the Rice Graduate Apartments
- Current and future visa / Immigration Status

The Honor Council does not lessen a punishment just because of the consequences it could have on a student's immigration status. International students could be subject to harsher consequences, such as being forced to return home, because of an Honor Code violation. Please ensure compliance with the Honor System and educate yourself on how to avoid an Honor Code violation.

****Remember that plagiarism does not have to be intentional to be considered plagiarism****

Resources to Help Avoid an Honor Code Violation

Understanding plagiarism, academic fraud, false citation, misuse of citation standards, etc. is important to avoid any Honor Code violations. The websites below may be used as a resource, but students should always defer to what the official Rice Honor Code states and what is required by the professor.

1) Avoiding Plagiarism

Avoiding Plagiarism: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: <http://www.wpacouncil.org/node/9>

Sources: Their Use and Acknowledgment: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/sources/>

How to Avoid Plagiarism: <http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/plagiar.html>

2) Style Guides

MLA: <http://www.mla.org/style>

Chicago Manual of Style: <http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org>

APA: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

3) Resources at Rice

Your professor!

Center for Written, Oral & Visual Communication: <http://cwovc.rice.edu/>

Honor Council members (see below, number 5)

4) Questions or Concerns Related to the Honor System and Immigration Status

The Office of International Students & Scholars

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Office Hours: Mon. - Fri., 8:00a-5p.

5) The Honor Council Website: <http://honor.rice.edu/>

Honor System Handbook: <http://honor.rice.edu/honor-system-handbook/>

Honor Council Members and Officers: <http://honor.rice.edu/members-and-ombuds/>

The TA handbook: <http://honor.rice.edu/ta-handbook/>