



QA220 Appendix 1: Outcomes for Student Breach of Academic Integrity

Revision: 1 September 2026

This appendix is pursuant to the Academic Integrity Policy. The outcome for misconduct will be determined by:

- Calculating the points for the conduct of the student.
- Calculating the points for the context of the misconduct (from each section of the table).
- Adding the points together from the conduct and context.
- Deciding the appropriate outcome based on these factors, which may be mitigated if there are compassionate or compelling circumstances.

Example of calculation:

	Points
Points for Conduct:	
Points for Context: Level of Student	
Points for Context: Previous Misconduct	
Points for Context: Intention to Hide Breach	
Total	

Points:

Conduct by student (add points from one of the eleven sections)		Points applied depending on seriousness				
		Less serious		More serious		
Plagiarism	1. Up to two plagiarised passages or components constituting up to 5% of the assessment task.	2				
	2. As in Clause 1 but with critical aspects* plagiarised		4			
	3. Up to four plagiarised passages or components constituting up to 20% of the assessment task.					
	4. As in clause 3 but with critical aspects* plagiarised.			6		
	5. Between 20% and 50% of the assessment task plagiarised.					



Conduct by student (add points from one of the eleven sections)		Points applied depending on seriousness				
		Less serious			More serious	
	6. As in clause 5 but with critical aspects* plagiarised. 7. More than 50% of the assessment task plagiarised.				8	
Contract Cheating	8. Asking someone else to complete all or part of an assignment on the student's behalf. 9. Offering to write all or part of an assignment for a student.				8	
	10. Submitting all or part of an assessment item which has been produced for the student and claiming it as the student's work. 11. Producing all or part of an assignment for a student. 12. Distributing their own assessment work for personal gain, either directly or through a third party, which could facilitate a breach of academic integrity.					16
Use of Artificial Intelligence	13. Submitting all or part of an assessment item which has been produced using artificial intelligence (e.g. Google Translate or other machine translation services/software, generative AI, etc.) and claiming it as the student's work.			7		
Collusion	14. Up to two passages or components constituting up to 5% of the assessment task.	2				
	15. As in clause 14 but with collusion in critical aspects* 16. Up to four passages or components constituting up to 20% of the assessment task.		4			
	17. As in clause 16 but with collusion in critical aspects* 18. Between 20% and 50% of the assessment task.			6		
	19. As in clause 18 but with collusion in critical aspects* 20. More than 50% of the assessment task				8	
	21. Providing their work to another student before the submission deadline, or for the purpose of another student's breach at any time	As appropriate (2-8)				



Conduct by student (add points from one of the eleven sections)		Points applied depending on seriousness				
		Less serious		More serious		
Non-compliance with assessment or examination instructions or requirements (for exams not part of the official university exam schedule from the Exams Office)	22. Unauthorised possession of aids or information in examination without use.	2				
	23. Failure to comply with directions about the assessment or examination (e.g.: speaking during examination)					
	24. Unauthorised aids or information used in examination.			6		
	25. Spoken or other communication between student and any unauthorised person during the examination related to the content of the examination.					
	26. Providing a copy of exam questions or content, or an assessment task that is to be completed under secure conditions, to another person				8	
	27. Providing restricted information to another person relating to assessment without the approval of the examination supervisor or module owner.					
	28. Receiving restricted information from another person relating to assessment without the approval of the examination supervisor or module owner.					16
Impersonation (for assessment/exams not part of the official university exam schedule from the Exams Office)	29. Asking another person to take the student's place for an examination or other assessment task.				8	
	30. Allowing another person to complete the examination or assessment task in the student's place.					16
	31. Impersonating another student in an examination or assessment task.					
Fraud	32. Creating or providing false documentation, in relation to assessment requirements or deadlines or special consideration,				8	



Conduct by student (add points from one of the eleven sections)		Points applied depending on seriousness				
		Less serious		More serious		
	including falsifying assessment task submission receipts and medical certificates.					
	33. Creating or providing false documentation, in relation to: a. Admission to the University, including providing false academic records b. Assessment outcomes c. Academic progress					16
Reuse of previous work	34. Submitting one's own work, previously published or submitted for assessment, without proper citation.	2				
Use of file-sharing sites	35. Uploading any content (assessment, notes, slides, etc.) from a module at the University to a third-party site regardless of whether there was any visible benefit to the student involved.		4			
Promoting ways to breach academic integrity	36. Sharing information with other students about ways to breach academic integrity or facilitating a breach of academic integrity other than through distribution of their own work. (See 12 above)					10
Falsification	37. Falsifying, fabricating, altering, or misrepresenting data, results, or sources.			8		
Mis-citation	38. Including inaccurate, misleading, fabricated, or otherwise unverifiable citations or references. 39. As in clause 38 but with mis-citation in critical aspects*		4			
Other breaches of academic integrity	40. Calculated relative to issues of similar significance above.	As appropriate (2-16)				

* Critical aspects are key ideas central to the assignment.



Context (add points from all three sections)		Points applied depending on seriousness				
		Less serious		More serious		
Level of Student Experience	41. Students in their first year of an undergraduate degree, first year of a discipline, or first year at an Irish (or comparable) university at undergraduate level	1				
	42. Students in their second year of undergraduate degree			3		
	43. Students in their third or more year of undergraduate degree (other than those accounted for in 41 above) or postgraduate students					5
Previous breaches of academic integrity, allowing for time for appropriate skills development	44. First breach	1				
	45. Second breach				4	
	46. Third or subsequent breach					5
Intention to hide the breach of academic integrity	47. No evidence of deliberate action to hide the breach of academic integrity once the breach had been reported to the AIA.	0				
	48. Evidence of deliberate action to hide a breach of academic integrity (beyond denying the breach) once the breach had been reported to the AIA.					6



Outcomes

Points	Outcomes
1-4	Completion of academic integrity training and an entry on the Academic Misconduct Register
5-8	Completion of academic integrity training, entry on the Academic Misconduct Register and any of the following: • Zero marks in relation to a specific component of assessment task • Assignment marked but with plagiarised sections treated as direct quotes • Resubmit the work for the full range of marks available • Reduction in marks for the assessment by stated amount • Student repeats and resubmits assessment task for a mark of no more than 50% In addition, study skills training is highly recommended.
9-12	Completion of academic integrity training, entry on the Academic Misconduct Register and any of the following: • Reduction in marks for the assessment by stated amount. • Zero marks in relation to a specific component of assessment task • Student repeats and resubmits assessment task for a mark of no more than 50% • Resubmission of the task but with a different topic (optional: for a mark of no more than 50%) In addition, study skills training is highly recommended.
13-15	Completion of academic integrity training, entry on the Academic Misconduct Register and any of the following: • Zero marks in relation to a specific component of assessment task • Zero marks for the assessment task • Zero marks for the module† In addition, study skills training is highly recommended.



Points	Outcomes
16-20	Completion of academic integrity training, entry on the Academic Misconduct Register and any of the following: • Zero marks for the assessment task • Zero marks for the module[†] • Suspension from the programme or University for a semester with an automatic right of return[†] • Exclusion from the programme or University for up to 2 semesters with no automatic right of return (student must apply to be re-admitted)[†] In addition, study skills training is highly recommended.
21+	Completion of academic integrity training, entry on the Academic Misconduct Register and any of the following: • Zero marks for the module[†] • Suspension from the programme or University for a semester with an automatic right of return[†] • Exclusion from the programme or University for up to 3 semesters with no automatic right of return (student must apply to be re-admitted)[†] • Permanent exclusion from the programme[†] • Expulsion from the University with no opportunity for readmission to a University of Galway programme, including termination of higher degree by research candidature[†] • Degree not awarded[†] • Recommendation to Academic Council that the degree be rescinded[†] In addition, study skills training is highly recommended.

[†]These outcomes can only be imposed by the Executive Dean upon a recommendation from the Academic Integrity Officer.

Weight of the assignment within a module may be considered when choosing the outcome from the range provided.

In cases where academic misconduct is found to have occurred in assessment for a research degree, outcomes listed above may be decided (or appropriately adapted), as may recommendations available to examiners of research degree theses (see [QA245 University Guidelines for Research Degree Programmes](#)).

This approach is adapted from Deakin University's 'Schedule A: Outcomes for student breach of academic integrity' which was itself developed from 'Benchmark Plagiarism Tariff' by Peter Tennant and Gill Rowell, plagiarismadvice.org