



ICHAS

Section 7 - Policies and Procedures on Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Subject:		Policy on Academic Integrity	
Applicable Standard	QQI Core	Teaching and Learning Assessment of Learners	
Date Approved by Board of Directors:			June 2022
Policy Version	1/2019	Date due for Revision	February 2024

CONTEXT

The policy applies in all situations involving academic work and is the guiding principle for all student assessment; including taking exams, making oral presentations, or writing assignments; dissertations or theses for assessment. The policy is informed by the following principles outlined by the IACI (2012):

- Develop and publicize clear, fair, academic integrity policies, procedures, and statements that can be effectively understood and consistently implemented.
- Promote positive aspects of academic integrity amongst all segments of the campus community. Promotional activities should include discussions of the fundamental values, development of ethical decision-making capacities, and highlighting the link between academic integrity and broader ethical concerns.
- Educate all members of the community about academic integrity standards so that expectations are well understood as integral components of the community culture.
- Practice the actions described in campus policies consistently and fairly.
- Provide support to those who follow the policies and uphold standards.
- Develop, explain, and administer equitable, transparent systems for adjudicating integrity violations.
- Stay abreast of current developments in technology and educational practices in order to anticipate increased risks and address potential problems.
- Regularly assess the effectiveness of academic integrity policies, procedures, and practices.
- Revise and revitalize as necessary to update and improve.

Responsibility for academic integrity extends college-wide across academic staff, student-body and administrative staff. The College approaches academic integrity positively and pragmatically with a focus on best practice rather than misconduct with a view to establishing a responsible integrity culture. This approach is supported by procedures for identifying and prohibiting behaviours that run counter to the principles of integrity.

POLICY STATEMENT

Academic best practice at ICHAS is guided by five pillars of academic integrity as outlined by The International Centre for Academic Integrity (1999) specifically:

- Honesty
- Trust
- Fairness
- Respect
- Responsibility

It is expected that students, faculty members and staff will at all times adhere to these ethical principles in all academic activities. This policy informs the promotion of best practice across all units and is conceived as a core cultural value.

Any action that contravenes this policy, including misrepresentation, falsification or deception, undermines the intention and worth of academic work and violates fundamental academic rights. Nevertheless, the policy is oriented towards a non-adversarial process whereby formal procedures are reserved for the most serious situations of academic impropriety. Therefore, this policy is designed to ensure that the College's standards are upheld in a fair and transparent fashion.

SCOPE

Applies To	Staff	Students	Both	
			✓	
Responsible for Implementation	Vice President (Corporate Affairs)			
Responsible for Monitoring & Review	Vice President (Corporate Affairs)	Vice President (Academic Affairs)	Registrar	Quality Assurance & Enhancement Officer
		✓	✓	✓

DEFINITIONS

- Academic Ethics "Moral values that are recognized and abided by the academic community" (ENAI 2018, p.7).

- Academic Integrity – “Compliance with ethical and professional principles, standards and practices by individuals or institutions in education, research and scholarship” (ENAI 2018, pp. 7-8).
- Academic Dishonesty - “Morally culpable behaviours perpetrated by individuals or institutions that transgress ethical standards held in common between other individuals and/or groups in institutions of education, research, or scholarship” (Jordan 2013 in ENAI 2018, p.7)
- Academic Misconduct – “Any action or attempted action that undermines academic integrity and may result in an unfair academic advantage or disadvantage for any member of the academic community or wider society.” (ENAI, 2018, p.8)
- Academic Fraud “Actions that are intended to deceive for unfair advantage by violating academic regulations”. (Eckstein 2003 in ENAI, 2018, p.7)
- Cheating – “Actions that attempt to get any advantage by means that undermine values of integrity” (ENAI 2018, p.12)

RELEVANT GUIDELINES/ POLICIES INFORMING THIS POLICY

- The International Center for Academic Integrity (2012). The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity (2nd Edition)
- European Network for Academic Integrity (2018) Glossary for Academic Integrity Report
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines Developed by QQI for use by all Providers
- European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) et al (2015) Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Sector Specific Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines Developed by QQI For Independent/Private Providers Coming To QQI On A Voluntary Basis
- Government of Ireland (2012) Qualifications & Quality Assurance (Education and Training Act.
- Section 43A of the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) (Amendment) Act 2019

Linked Policies or Procedures

Linked Policies	Policy on Teaching and Learning Policy on Assessment of Learners Policy on Marking, Grading and Certification in Assessment Policy on Recheck and Review of Assessment Decisions Policy on Appeals
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Linked Procedures	Procedures associated with Teaching and Learning Procedures associated with Breaches of Academic Integrity Procedure associated with Examination Procedures associated with Appeals
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