Appendix: University Policies

Academic Integrity[[1]](#footnote-1)

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. The basic assumptions regarding student academic work at the University are:

1. Students attend the University in order to learn and grow intellectually.
2. Academic assignments exist for the sake of this goal and grades exist to show how fully the goal is attained.
3. A student’s academic work and grades should result from the student’s own effort to learn and grow. Academic work completed any other way is pointless, and grades obtained any other way are fraudulent.

Academic integrity means understanding and respecting these basic truths, without which no university can exist. Academic misconduct violates the assumptions at the heart of all learning. It destroys the mutual trust and respect that should exist between student and professor. Academic misconduct is unfair to students who earn their grades honestly.

**Adjustments for Pregnancy/Childbirth Related Issues**  
Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see   
<http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/pregnancyfaqs.html> for commonly asked questions.

**Final Exam Preparation Period**

Pre-finals week will be defined as the seven calendar days before the first day of finals. Faculty may cover new course material throughout this week. For specific provisions of the policy please refer to OU’s Final Exam Preparation Period policy (<https://apps.hr.ou.edu/FacultyHandbook#4.10>).

Religious Observance

It is the policy of the University to excuse the absences of students that result from religious observances and to reschedule examinations and additional required classwork that may fall on religious holidays, without penalty.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy

If you have a disability that may prevent the full demonstration of your abilities in this course, please contact me personally as well as the Disability Resources Center <http://www.ou.edu/drc/home.html> to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities.

**Title IX Resources**  
For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24.7, counseling services, mutual no contact orders, scheduling adjustments and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact  the Sexual Misconduct Office 405-325-2215 (8-5) or the Sexual Assault Response Team 405-615-0013 (24.7) to learn more or to report an incident.

**Weather Cancellations:**

In the event that class is cancelled due to inclement weather, please log in to our D2L site prior to class time to see if an alternate, online assignment has been posted. As long as we all have electricity, an attempt will be made to make up for lost class time using online tools.

**Writing Center:**

Most universities have a writing center, a place for students, faculty, and staff to meet and talk about writing. The Writing Center here at OU is a resource I encourage you to use. As a writer you will want to seek feedback from many different readers. The writing consultants at the writing center are able to talk with you about your writing--at any stage in the process and for any course you are taking.

You can make an appointment (online or by phone) and you can drop in whenever they are open. I urge you to visit the web site for more information: [www.write.ou.edu.](http://www.ou.edu/writingcenter.html)

The OU Writing Center welcomes all writers and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability.  We consider difference to be a seed for learning, writing, and a just society.

1. https://apps.hr.ou.edu/FacultyHandbook/#4.16 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)