

University of South Alabama
College of Nursing
Honor Code

Academic Integrity

The University of South Alabama, College of Nursing (USACON), as a member of the community of scholars represented by the University at large, adheres to the guidelines for academic integrity set forth in the University's publication, *The Lowdown*. According to *The Lowdown*, ensuring honesty and competence in academic work is the responsibility of both students and faculty. All students, faculty, and staff are responsible for acquainting themselves with, adhering to, and promoting policies governing academic conduct.

As stated in *The Lowdown*, academic misconduct is incompatible with the standards of the academic community. Such acts are viewed as moral and intellectual offenses and are subject to investigation and disciplinary action through due process of established university procedures. Examples of Academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, activities such as giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations, improperly obtaining a copy of an examination, plagiarism, misrepresentation of information, or altering transcripts or university records. Penalties for academic misconduct may range from the loss of credit for a particular assignment to dismissal from the University. More information regarding procedures for resolution of matters of academic misconduct may be found in *The Lowdown*.

In addition to the general standards of academic conduct expected of the University at large, the USACON recognizes and accepts its specific obligation, as a member of the professional community of nursing, to create and maintain an environment supportive of the growth of virtue and excellence essential to fulfillment of the individual and collective ethos, regardless of professional role (American Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Nurses [ANACEN], Provision 6). Furthermore, the USACON recognizes and accepts its obligation to create and maintain an environment which ensures safe and effective health care to the public. To that end, the USACON has adopted an Honor Code, the specific basis of which is found in the ANACEN, as a succinct statement of the special obligation incumbent on nurses with respect to academic conduct. The USACON's Honor Code is consistent with the Honor Code of the ANACEN, thus the USACON believes that a commitment to upholding the Honor Code is a justifiable condition of enrollment in the USACON. Students will affirm commitment to the USACON Honor Code by signing a copy of the Honor Code during the first semester of enrollment in the professional component and during each subsequent semester per individual course requirements. Students may also be required to reaffirm commitment to the Honor Code by signing an abbreviated statement as part of completion of any graded assignment or exam.

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