



NATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

HEA | HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY
AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS



IMPACT
COMMUNITY - CAPACITY - CULTURE

Transform-EDU Workstream 4.3

[Approach to the Implementation of ACADEMIC INTEGRITY Module for Students & Staff]

TU Dublin IMPACT Webinar Series (Reflective Practice and Learners) Wednesday November 25, 2020

Philip Owende, Kevin O'Rourke & Cormac MacMahon

What did you do?



Academic Integrity*

Academic Integrity means acting with the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility in learning, teaching and research.

It is vital for ALL Students & Staff to act in an honest way & take responsibility for their actions & every part of their work.

Contract Cheating*

Contract cheating happens when third parties complete work for students who then submit them to education providers as their own, where such inputs are not permitted. These often involve the payment of fees to the third parties.

How Endemic are Pathways to Infringement on Integrity?

[Hyperlinks provided below are for illustration of the potential only and do not assert or confirm that they have been used to infringe academic integrity]

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* <https://www.epigeum.com/courses/studying/academic-integrity/>
* QAA. 2020. [Contracting to Cheat in Higher Education \(2nd Edition\)](#). The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education UK.

What did you learn?



Available evidence suggest that infringement through contract cheating appear to be increasing*. Practicable approaches that have been proposed that could limit the influence in Higher Education include:

- (1) Improvement to assessment design, education, policy and the law all need to be implemented in order to protect academic standards and quality, and the security of a university award.
- (2) The use of face-to-face assessment methods, improved education & support for students and staff;
- (3) Changes to the law to make provision of commercial contract cheating services illegal, i.e., *Interrupt the Shopping*.

How is the problem currently being addressed?

QQI. 2020. [Academic Integrity Definition of Misconduct](#)

QAA. 2020. [How to Address Essay Mills & Contract Cheating](#)

TEQSA. 2017. [Good Practice Note Addressing Contract Cheating](#)

Evaluate Problem, Foster Culture & Interrupt 'Shopping':



Journal
Teaching in Higher Education >
Critical Perspectives
Volume 21. 2016 - Issue 8

Ghostwriters guaranteeing grades?



ContractCheating.com

Overviews of Current Research



Interrupting the 'Shopping' (access blocking)

What would you improve?



Basis for Implementation in TU Dublin is that? Infusion of Personal Responsibility into the Curriculum (including credit bearing Co & Extra curricula) & nurturing competences in ethical & moral reasoning are key & therefore should be HEIs foci.

🎧 **Epigeum/OU Press Software* & Perpetual Licence to TU Dublin + Concurrent Release in the 3 TU Dublin Campuses**

Blanchardstown Campus Moodle

City Campus Brightspace

Tallaght Campus Moodle

🎧 **Implementation of Student Facing Modules**
[Understand & Challenge Motivation to Cheat]

M1: What is academic integrity?

M2: How do I show academic integrity in my preparation?

M3: How do I show academic integrity in my work?

M4: How can I feel more confident about academic integrity?

M5: How do I deal with more complex situations?

🎧 **Implementation of Staff Facing Modules**
[Understand, Nurture & Promote Integrity Culture]

M1: What is academic integrity?

M2: Promoting a culture of academic integrity

M3: Identifying and responding to breaches of academic integrity

M4: Teaching, learning and assessment: implications for academic integrity

M5: Assessment design choices for academic integrity