# The Grading System

## Grade Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent attainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good attainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Fair attainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Poor attainment (earns credit hour but may not fulfill requirement for a major)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure (effective Fall 1995)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XF</td>
<td>Failure - Academic Integrity (effective Fall 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Course dropped on or before the last day for withdrawing from classes as published in the official calendar of the University. Credit hour can be earned only by successful repetition of the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WL</td>
<td>Late Withdrawal - Administrative; Only used for Complete Withdrawal (Effective Summer 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete work in passing status with the instructor's permission to complete the course. An &quot;I&quot; will be assigned only if the instructor is satisfied that there are reasonable non-academic grounds for the student's incomplete work. An &quot;I&quot; is not intended to be assigned in order to permit a student to repeat a course without registration or to permit a student to do additional work in order to improve upon grades earned during the semester. The student who receives an &quot;I&quot; must complete the course with a passing grade within the time frame specified by the professor of the course but not longer than the end of one calendar year, or prior to graduation, whichever occurs first. An Academic Dean may approve an extension initiated by the course instructor. An &quot;I&quot; not completed prior to the student's graduation shall be changed to an &quot;IE&quot; or &quot;IF&quot; by action of the student's Academic Dean.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>Denotes in progress grade assigned upon satisfactory completion of the first semester of a two-semester sequence, with the final grade for both courses to be submitted at the end of the second semester of the sequence. Please note that all &quot;IP&quot;s must be converted to a letter grade or &quot;IF&quot; at graduation. &quot;IP&quot; will also be converted to &quot;IF&quot; upon any departure from the University for a period in excess of one year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IF</td>
<td>Symbol indicating that an &quot;I&quot; grade was not appropriately completed. The symbol &quot;IF&quot; is equivalent to an &quot;F&quot; when computing a student's average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR</td>
<td>Grade signifying that credit only is awarded based on a &quot;C&quot; average or better.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Grade signifying that no credit hour is awarded based on a course average below a grade of &quot;C&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NG</td>
<td>Symbol assigned by the Office of the Registrar indicating that the instructor has not reported the student's grade. For a student to receive credit hour for the course, the instructor must report a passing grade prior to the student's graduation, or by the end of one regular academic semester, whichever comes first. An Academic Dean may approve an extension initiated by the course instructor. An &quot;NG&quot; not replaced by a passing grade, or by a &quot;W&quot;, prior to the student's graduation shall be changed to an &quot;F&quot; by action of the student's Academic Dean.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Credit Only Option

The credit only option for UM courses has been established to encourage students to explore academic areas outside their major and minor fields of concentration. Students who take UM courses under the credit option may only do so with free electives, not to fulfill minor, major, or degree requirements, and receive a CR (Credit Received) or NC (No Credit).

The exception to this is test credits that are accepted with a UM equivalency and a grade of CR from the following programs, which can be used to fulfill minor, major, or degree requirements:

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- General Certificate of Education (GCE)
- Cambridge Pre-U
- Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) Unit
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Courses with CR or NC grades become part of a student's record, but they do not count in the grade point average as computed by the University of Miami.
Grade Point Average

The grade point average is used to determine:

- class rank
- graduation and university honor eligibility
- good standing, probation, and dismissal status
- scholarship eligibility

Your official grade point average is based only on the work you have completed at the University of Miami. The only exception to this policy is for determining whether a student qualifies for university honors established by the minimum grade point requirement at the time of graduation. For graduation purposes, cumulative grade point average is defined as either the average of all grades earned at the University of Miami or the combined average of all graded work taken at the University of Miami and elsewhere whether or not the transfer work is accepted toward a degree at the University of Miami, whichever is lower.

Quality points per credit hour are awarded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Quality Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A−</td>
<td>3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B−</td>
<td>2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C−</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E (Prior to Fall 1995)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (Effective Fall 1995)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XF (effective Fall 2020)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IF</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Courses marked with an “IE” or “IF” count as credit hour attempted but are not counted in credit hours earned and do not carry quality points. Courses with an XF grade, which is received due to an academic integrity violation (http://bulletin.miami.edu/general-university-information/university-policies/course-information/#text), may not be retaken under the Undergraduate Repeat Rule.

Credit hours marked CR are counted as credit hours earned but are not counted in credit hours attempted and do not carry quality points. Courses marked with the symbols I, IP, W, NC, and NG do not carry credit hours attempted, credit hours earned, or quality points.

The grade point average is determined by dividing the total quality points earned by the total credit hours attempted.

Military service credit hour, some foreign university credit hour, correspondence course credit hour, credit by examination, etc., are not awarded quality points and do not enter the computation of the grade point average.

Grade Change Policy

LETTER GRADES

- Grade changes may only be submitted after final grades have been posted to the official student record by the University Registrar.
- Only the faculty member of record may initiate the grade change process, except for instances of student grade appeals.¹
- Grade changes may be submitted up to one calendar year from the date on which the course grade was posted.

¹ Faculty Senate legislation #83032(B)
² Faculty Senate legislation #2000-24(B)
³ Faculty Senate legislation #2001-29(B)
⁴ Faculty Senate legislation #85005(B) and #97001(B)
⁵ Faculty Senate legislation #85001(B)
⁶ Faculty Senate legislation #2018-41(B)
A grade change may be proposed only to correct a clerical or calculation error in the determination of a final grade.

Grade change proposals must be approved by the chair of the department offering the course and by the Dean (or Dean’s designee) of the School/College of the course department.

The University Registrar will process the approved grade change and update the student record.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

To allow a student extra time to complete course work due to unusual circumstances, faculty may submit an Incomplete (I) grade on condition that the student:

1. Has attended class and completed at least 50% of the course work;
2. Has a passing grade or is in good standing in the course;
3. Has corresponded with the faculty member to determine the work that must be submitted;
4. Has agreed with the faculty member on a due date (no more than one year from the date the incomplete grade is submitted).

EXPIRATION OF INCOMPLETE

An undergraduate Incomplete (I) grades will be converted to an “IF” if a grade change is not submitted by the due date. The “IF” is calculated into the student’s GPA as a failing grade.

1. Process for student-initiated grade appeals can be found in the Undergraduate Academic Bulletin under the Grading system.

Academic Standing, Probation, and Dismissal

At the end of each semester, the University shall determine whether a student is in Good Academic Standing, on Academic Probation, or subject to Academic Dismissal. Some schools and colleges may have exceptions to the Good Academic Standing, Academic Warning, Academic Probation and Academic Dismissal policies listed below.

Good Academic Standing

To be in Good Academic Standing a student must not be on Academic Probation or subject to Academic Dismissal.

Academic Probation

Students other than first-semester freshmen (non-transfer student) whose UM cumulative grade-point average (CGPA) in University of Miami courses is below the following levels shall be placed on Academic Probation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours Earned</th>
<th>CGPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fewer than 33</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33-64</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-96</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 96</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*First-semester freshmen who have a semester grade-point average below 1.3 shall be placed on Academic Probation.* In addition, students who fail to make satisfactory progress toward meeting the degree requirements specified by their School or College may be put on Probation by the Academic Standards Committee of the School/College. Students on Academic Probation must meet with their academic advisor prior to the following semester and shall be restricted to a 13-credit hour load.

Academic Dismissal

A student who remains on probationary status after two consecutive semesters on Academic Probation shall be subject to Academic Dismissal. A student who has been on Academic Probation for one semester and has a CGPA below 1.0 shall also be subject to Academic Dismissal. The decision to dismiss shall be made by the Academic Standards Committee of the School/College in which the student is enrolled. If a decision is made not to dismiss, the student shall remain on Academic Probation.

Honor Code

The Honor Code, initiated at the request of the Undergraduate Student Body Government, ratified by student referendum, approved by the Faculty Senate, by the President of the University, and administered by students, protects the academic integrity of the University of Miami by encouraging consistent ethical behavior among its undergraduate students. The Code provides standards that prohibit all forms of scholastic dishonesty, including
cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification or misrepresentation of experimental data. The Code covers all written and oral examinations, term papers, creative works, assigned computer related work, and any other academic work done at the University by an undergraduate student.

All undergraduate students are responsible for reading, understanding, and upholding the Honor Code. Signed pledges are required for written work submitted for evaluation, but the absence of a signed pledge does not free a student from the ethical standards required by the Code. Procedures for dealing with infractions of the Code, including provisions for appeals, are printed in the text of the Honor Code. Copies may be obtained from the Office of the Dean of Students or from the office of the Undergraduate Student Body Government, or online (http://www.miami.edu/honor-council/).

In keeping with the traditional prerogatives of university faculties, nothing in the Code infringes on the faculty's assignment of grades undertaken in a class. Instructors are informed when students have been found guilty of infractions involving their classes. Courses in which students have been failed for academic dishonesty may neither be dropped nor repeated under the terms of the Undergraduate Repeat Rule.

**Academic Integrity Policy**

**TITLE I. General Provisions**

A. Purpose
The University of Miami community recognizes integrity as a core institutional value. The Undergraduate Honor Code is based upon the Academic Integrity Policy which was approved by the Faculty Senate, the President of the University, and the UM Board of Trustees in 2019.

A full copy of the Academic Integrity Policy may be accessed through the link Academic Integrity Policy (https://fs.miami.edu/_assets/pdf/facultysenate/Documents/academic-integrity-policy-final-changes-accepted-2018-41.pdf). The Honor Code is designed to ensure academic integrity at the University of Miami; encourage consistent ethical behavior among undergraduate students; and foster a climate of fair competition. While a student's commitment to honesty and personal integrity is assumed and expected, the Honor Code is intended to provide an added measure of assurance that, in fulfilling the University's requirements, a student's work will never involve falsification, plagiarism, or other deception regarding the true nature of the materials presented. Each student is responsible for completing the academic requirements of each course in the manner indicated by the faculty.

B. The Honor Creed
As a student of the University of Miami, I commit myself to upholding the Honor Code and promoting the values of Honesty, Responsibility, and Integrity.

C. Responsibility of the University Community
All undergraduate students are responsible for reading, understanding, and upholding the Academic Integrity Policy (AIP) and the Honor Code which derives from it. Students are expected to warn fellow students who do not appear to be observing proper ethical standards and to report violations of the policy. The absence of a signed pledge does not free a student from the ethical standards set by the Honor Code. To fulfill the responsibilities of membership in the University Community, violations of academic integrity should be reported by faculty and by all other members of the Community.

D. Jurisdiction
All undergraduate students, full and part-time, attending the University of Miami shall be subject to the Academic Integrity Policy and the Honor Code which derives from this policy. No action under the Academic Integrity Policy or the Honor Code shall be brought against any student who has graduated from, or officially severed all relations with, the University. To the extent of a conflict between the Academic Integrity Policy and the Honor Code, the terms of the Academic Integrity Policy shall control.

**TITLE II. Violations of Academic Integrity**

A. Policy Statement
All forms of scholastic dishonesty are prohibited, whether related to a written or oral examination, a thesis, term paper, mode of creative expression, computer-based work, or other academic undertaking. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the falsification or misrepresentation of experimental data, and violating the professional ethics that obtain in clinical activities, research projects, and internships. In determining what constitutes academic dishonesty, a student should be guided by the purposes of this code, common sense, and information provided by the instructor.

The Honor Council is not modeled after a court of law. Its hearings are not adversarial proceedings. Neither prosecuting nor defense attorneys shall be present at hearings.

B. Violations
1. Cheating - implies the intent to deceive. It includes all actions, devices and deceptions used in the attempt to commit this act. Examples include, but are not limited to, copying answers from another student's exam, and using a cheat sheet or crib notes in an exam.
2. Plagiarism - is representing the words or ideas of someone else as your own. Examples include, but are not limited to, failing to properly cite direct quotes and failing to give credit for someone else's ideas. Plagiarism also includes copying your own work from another class or prior assignment without proper citation.
3. Collusion - is the act of working together on an academic undertaking for which a student is individually responsible. Examples include, but are not limited to, sharing information in labs that are to be done individually.
4. Academic Dishonesty - includes any other act not specifically covered that compromises the integrity of a student or intrudes, violates, or disturbs the academic environment of the university community. Examples are attempting or agreeing to commit, or assisting in or facilitating the commission of, any scholastic dishonesty violation, failing to appear or testify without good cause when requested by the Honor Council, failing to keep information about cases confidential, supplying false information to the Honor Council and accusing a student of a violation of this Code in bad faith.

TITLE III. The Honors Council and Appeals Board

1. General
   1. The Honor Council’s purpose is to review documents provided by individual school Academic Integrity Committees (AIC), ascertain the facts in a given case and, upon finding a violation of academic integrity, suggest appropriate penalties. It should be noted that while penalties regarding grades may be recommended by the AIC, Honor Council and/or Appeals Board, allocation of grades rests solely with the instructor. Students may appeal grades through the Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee. The Honor Council may, however, determine disciplinary actions which could include suspension or expulsion.
   2. The University of Miami Undergraduate Honor Council is a standing committee deriving its authority from the University.
   3. The Honor Council shall consist of up to 31 representatives from the undergraduate schools or colleges selected each year for a one-year term by the Appeals Board in addition to 18 faculty appointed by the respective undergraduate School Councils for a term of 2 years.
   4. The Appeals Board shall attempt to include at least one representative from each undergraduate school or college on the council.
   5. Each Honor Council Hearing Panel shall consist of 2 faculty and 2 students. The Dean of Students will resolve any ties (refer to the Academic Integrity Policy for more information).

2. Appointment of the Council
   1. Faculty are appointed by each respective School Council for a 2-year term.
   2. Full time undergraduate students in good standing (as defined in the University of Miami Bulletin) with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better are eligible for membership on the Council. (High school grade point average will be used for first semester students).
   3. Each Spring semester students may apply for initial appointment or re-appointment to the Honor Council by submitting a written application to the Dean of their school or college or to the office of the Dean of Students at a time designated by the Appeals Board. Each Dean may recommend to the Secretary at least five applicants in addition to the members currently serving from that school or college.
   4. The Appeals Board shall interview the students and shall appoint 31 students to serve on the Honor Council.

3. Officers of the Honor Council
   a. The Honor Council shall elect from its members a President and a Vice President.
   b. The President must have served at least one year as a member of the Honor Council.
   c. The Vice President shall assume the responsibilities of the President when the President is unavailable.
   d. The President shall preside over meetings of the Honor Council.

4. Meetings
   a. Bi-Weekly Meetings shall be called by the President.
   b. A quorum of the Council for the purpose of transacting affairs is a majority of the active members.

TITLE IV. The Appeals Board and Secretary

A. The Appeals Board
   The Appeals Board consists of: the Vice President for Student Affairs, or designee, the President of the Undergraduate Student Body Government, and a tenured academic dean from the school or college where the violation occurred. The student speaker from the Honor Council hearing panel serves as a non-voting member.

B. The Secretary
   1. The Vice President for Student Affairs shall appoint a Secretary to the Honor Council
   2. The Secretary, who shall be the Dean of Students or their designee, shall keep orderly records of all Honor Council and Appeal Board proceedings, provide such advice as may be sought by the Honor Council, and perform the other duties as necessary based on the University’s Academic Integrity Policy.

TITLE V. Procedures: Reporting Violations

1. Any member of the University can confidentially report academic dishonesty to the instructor teaching the course or directly to the Dean of Students when there is strong evidence that an academic integrity violation has occurred.
2. If no evidence is present or when suspicion is not strong, the instructor may give the student a warning and close the matter.
3. When instructors have a strong suspicion, or when evidence is present, instructors shall report the violation through the process described herein and have the authority to recommend a sanction.
4. Instructors must also report all cases of academic integrity violations in which they have taken an adverse action affecting a student's grade but have not invoked the adjudication process described herein.

5. Based on the class of violation, the appropriate adjudicating body will be assigned to adjudicate the case.

**TITLE VI: Classifications of Violations and Sanction Guidelines**

1. The University distinguishes between a) first-time violations that are of low severity, b) first-time violations that are more severe, and c) repeat violations of any type and highly egregious offenses.

2. For greater consistency of sanctions for the same violation across the University, instructors are encouraged to consult the examples of violation classes and guidelines for potential sanctions suggested by the University. These guidelines may be used to set course specific policies and/or for recommending sanctions when course specific expectations are not clearly outlined in the syllabus.

3. When instructors have clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, those grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions recommended by the AIC, Honor Council, and/or Appeals Board.

4. The suggested violation classes and corresponding recommended sanctions are only examples and do not provide an exhaustive list. The determination of the severity of a violation and the corresponding sanction will often fall on instructors and the hearing boards.

5. If a student is ultimately found not responsible for a violation of this Honor Code, no sanctions can be imposed even if sanctions were recommended by the faculty member and/or provided for in the faculty member's syllabus.

1. **Examples of Class I Violations and Sanction Guidelines**

   **Alleged violation***
   
   a. Studying from another student's notes, when prohibited by the instructor.
   b. Utilizing a tutor or the writing center in violation of the rules and guidelines set by the instructor.
   c. Providing false or misleading information to be excused from class or to delay taking a quiz, exam, or extending a deadline.
   d. Plagiarism: Submitting an assignment where up to 25% of the assignment is not the work of the student and/or properly cited.
   e. Copying homework or providing homework to another student to copy.
   f. Signing in for another student for attendance purposes.
   g. Working with a group (collusion) on an assignment, exam, or paper that should be done individually.
   h. Submitting the same work for more than one course.
   i. Any use of digital technologies prohibited by the instructor.

   **3. Recommended Sanctions for Responsible Finding or Admission of a Class I Violation**
   
   • Minimum "F" on the assignment.
   • Maximum "F" in the course.
   • Educational sanction related to academic integrity.
   • Not a reportable disciplinary concern to graduate or professional schools, etc.
   • For an expedited process, student can accept faculty recommended sanction or the minimum sanction ("F" on the assignment) when faculty recommendation is not available.
   • If a student wishes a hearing with the AIC, and is found responsible, the committee may recommend increasing or decreasing the sanction suggested by the instructor.
   • The parties can appeal to the Honor Council as the final adjudicator.

   *This is not an exhaustive or strict list. These examples are provided only as a guideline to determine severity of the violations and commensurate sanction(s). Note: When the instructor has clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, those grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions outlined above and/or recommended by the AIC, Honor Council, and/or the Appeals Board.

2. **Examples of Class II Violations and Sanction Guidelines**

   1. Class II violations are first-time violations that are considered more egregious than Class I violations with higher penalties but allow for an expedited process at the School/College level.

   **Alleged Violations***
   
   a. Possession of or use of any materials prohibited by instructor.
   b. Unauthorized use of term paper or exam (e.g., past exams or other source).
   c. Giving exam to students in a later section.
   d. Plagiarism: Submitting an assignment where 25% to 50% of the assignment is not the work of the student and/or properly cited.
   e. Bringing a cheat sheet or unauthorized notes or formulas into the exam.
   f. Facilitating the academic dishonesty of another student (e.g., texting or emailing exam answers to another student, helping another student write a paper).
3. Recommended Sanctions for Responsible Finding or Admission of a Class II Violation

- At minimum, “F” in the course.
- At maximum, dismissal from the University.
- Educational sanction related to academic integrity.
- The parties can appeal to the Appeals Board as the final adjudicator.

* This is not an exhaustive or strict list. These examples are provided only as a guideline to determine severity of the violations and commensurate sanction(s). Note: When the instructor has clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, those grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions recommended by the AIC, Honor Council, and/or the Appeals Board.

3. Examples of Class III Violations and Sanction Guidelines

1. Class III violations are repeated offenses of any kind, or a violation so egregious it requires an Honor Council Hearing, with more severe sanction guidelines than Class II

2. Alleged Violations*

   a. Any repeat alleged violation that the student has been found responsible for previously.
   b. Falsifying or forging academic credentials or University documents including internship documentation and letters of recommendation.
   c. Submission or use of falsified data.
   d. Sabotage of someone else's work.
   e. Taking a test or writing a paper for someone else.
   f. Plagiarism: Submitting an assignment where 50% or more of the assignment is not the work of the student and/or properly cited.
   g. Obtaining/purchasing exam answers or term papers from someone else.
   h. Unauthorized distribution of a quiz or exam.
   i. Any other type of academic fraud.

3. Recommended Sanctions for Responsible Finding or Admission of a Class III Violation

   a. At minimum, “XF” in the course.
   b. At maximum, expulsion from the University.
   c. Educational sanction related to academic integrity.
   d. The parties involved can appeal to the Appeals Board as the final adjudicator.

* This is not an exhaustive or strict list. These examples are provided only as a guideline to determine severity of the violations and commensurate sanction(s). Note: When the instructor has clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, those grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions recommended by the AIC, Honor Council, and/or the Appeals Board.

MEMBERSHIP AND HEARING PANEL STRUCTURES

SCHOOL/COLLEGE ACADEMIC INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

ADJUDICATES

Alleged Class I and Class II violations

HEARING PANEL STRUCTURE

3 Faculty

MEMBERSHIP

6 Faculty

Dean of Undergraduate Studies/Education (DoUG, non-voting)

*At the school's discretion, committee membership may be altered to compose more than two hearing panels, or decreased to constitute one panel as long as the cases are adjudicated in a timely manner.

SELECTION

Faculty appointed by the school council of the school/college for a 2-year term.

HONOR COUNCIL

ADJUDICATES

Alleged Class III violations and appeals for Class I and II violations

HEARING PANEL STRUCTURE

2 Faculty.

2 Students (Dean of Students will resolve any ties)

In exceptional cases when the Dean of Students is unable to find 2 students to serve on a hearing panel within 7 days, the parties** may agree to one of the following options for an expedited hearing:

1) A panel deviating from the regular number and structure of members.
2) An administrative hearing with the Dean of Students (or designee) and an Academic Dean (or faculty designee).

**Parties in the policy are defined as the student(s)suspected of academic dishonesty, and the faculty reporting the suspected behavior.**

**MEMBERSHIP**

18 Faculty
Up to 31 students
Dean of Students (non-voting)

*At the school’s discretion, committee membership may be altered to compose more than two hearing panels, or decreased to constitute one panel as long as the cases are adjudicated in a timely manner.

**SELECTION**

Faculty: Appointed by the school council of each school/college for a 2-year term
Students: Multi-layered interview process

**APPEALS BOARD**

**ADJUDICATES**

Appeals for Class II and III violations

**HEARING PANEL STRUCTURE**

VP for Student Affairs
Dean of Undergraduate Affairs of the school where the violation occurred
U/G Student Government President
Speaker of the Honor Council hearing panel (non-voting)

Note: The Appeals Board – the only grounds for appeal to the Appeals Board are: the failure to follow the procedures established for adjudication of an academic integrity violation constituted an error; and the sanction(s) imposed was (were) not commensurate with the offense.

**TITLE VII. Adjudication Process**

Any member of the University may confidentially report academic dishonesty to the instructor teaching the course or directly to the Dean of Students when there is strong evidence that an academic integrity violation has occurred. If no evidence is present or when suspicion is not strong, instructors may give the student a warning and close the matter. When instructors have a strong suspicion, or when evidence is present, instructors shall report the violation through the process described herein and have the authority to recommend a sanction. Instructors must also report all cases of academic integrity violations in which they have taken an adverse action affecting a student's grade but have not invoked the adjudication process described herein. Based on the class of violation, the appropriate hearing board will adjudicate the case.

**A. Process for Class I Violations**

1. Instructors must immediately report the suspected violation to the Department Chair (or relevant administrator in the non-departmentalized schools) and complete the online Academic Integrity Reporting Form. The Department Chair will immediately inform the DoUG of the school.

2. The instructor may urge and/or recommend a sanction depending on the specific expectations and policies outlined in their syllabus. However, if an instructor has clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, those grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions recommended by the AIC, and/or the Honor Council.

3. The DoUG will determine the violation class and meet with the student within 5 academic days of receiving a report to present the charges (and potential sanctions) and go over the student’s options as follows:
   a. Admit responsibility and take the instructor’s suggested sanction or the sanction set forth in the syllabus (Expedited Process).
   b. Admit responsibility and take the minimum sanction when the instructor’s recommendation is not available and the syllabus is silent as to the sanction (Expedited Process).
   c. Request a hearing with the AIC.

4. The student will get 3 academic days to make a decision. If the student does not respond within the allowed time, the sanction set forth in the syllabus, the sanction recommended by the instructor, or the minimum sanction, if neither of the foregoing two instances apply, will hold and the student will waive the right to any further hearing.

5. If the student accepts responsibility and agrees with the sanction set forth in the syllabus, the instructor’s recommended sanction, or the minimum sanction, the DoUG will administer the Academic Integrity Resolution Form. No further action will be needed. The DoUG will report the case to the Dean of Students for record-keeping within 3 academic days of the resolution.

6. If the student does not admit responsibility or does not agree with the sanction, the DoUG will refer the case to the AIC within 3 academic days of the student’s decision. The AIC will meet within 2 weeks of receiving the DoUG’s notice. The AIC will listen to both parties and make a recommendation within 3 academic days of the hearing. The AIC’s recommendation may be more or less stringent than the faculty’s recommended sanction. If the student is found responsible and the instructor has clearly outlined expectations and sanctions in their syllabus concerning a grade sanction, this grade sanction will supersede the AIC’s recommendation on grading but will not impact other disciplinary measures imposed by the AIC.

7. The parties will have 3 academic days to consider the AIC’s recommendation and make a decision. If the student fails to respond within the allotted time, the sanction set forth in the syllabus, the sanction recommended by the instructor, or the minimum sanction, if neither of the
The Honor Council will hear repeated violations of any kind, or a violation so egregious that it requires an Honor Council hearing, with more severe
sanction guidelines than Class II violations.

B. Process for Class II Violations
These are first time violations that are deemed more severe than the Class I violations.
The reporting and hearing process for Class II violations will be the same as Class I violations except:

1. The minimum recommended sanction for Class II violations is “F” on the course. This assumes that the instructor did not have clear grade sanctions and expectations for integrity violations on their syllabus. If they do, the grade sanctions set forth in the syllabus supersede any recommendations on grading but will not impact other disciplinary measures imposed by the Honor Council.

2. Parties will have the right to appeal to the Appeals Board after the Honor Council's determination in accordance with the grounds described below in Title VIII.

3. Except for a grade sanction that is clearly set forth in the faculty member's syllabus, the Appeals Board's decision on disciplinary action will be binding for both parties.

C. Process for Class III Violations
The Honor Council will hear repeated violations of any kind, or a violation so egregious that it requires an Honor Council hearing, with more severe sanction guidelines than Class II[A1] (p. ).

1. The instructor reporting process will be the same as for Class I and II violations.

2. The DoUG will determine the violation class and meet with the student within 5 academic days of receiving a report to present the charges (and potential sanctions) and to inform the student about next steps. DoUG will forward the case to the Dean of Students for adjudication by the Honor Council.

3. The Dean of Students within 7 academic days of receiving the report of the alleged violation will establish the Honor Council hearing panel and will inform the parties.

4. Investigation
The Dean of Students shall assign Investigators from the Honor Council student membership to gather and examine all information for the complaint used by the school-level AICs and prepare findings for presentation to the Hearing Panel. They should interview the student charged, the complainant, the instructor, if any, responsible for the course or other activity to which the charges relate, and any other potential witnesses. They should also review all documentary evidence available including any statement or syllabus of the instructor and shall make such inquiry as appropriate.

5. Hearing Panel Selection and Regulations
a. Upon receipt of the investigators’ reports, the Dean of Students shall select a four member Hearing Panel (“Hearing Panel” or “Panel”) from among the members of the Honor Council consisting of two faculty members and two students and designate one student panel member as the Panel Speaker. Hearing Panels shall be filled on a rotating and impartial basis, subject to review by the Appeals Board on its own motion, or upon request of the President of the Honor Council. The Dean of Students shall supply the members of the panel with the name of the student charged and the nature of the activity to which the charge relates.

b. Upon receipt of the notice, Hearing Panel members shall recuse themselves if they are aware of any personal bias or conflict of interest that may improperly affect their judgment, or if they are enrolled in the course section or other academic activity to which the complaint relates. If a Hearing Panel member does not offer voluntary recusal, a majority of the Panel, excluding the challenged member, may remove that member for cause.

Appendix A1
c. Hearings that are scheduled within the last two weeks of the end of the academic year or during summer terms may be heard by an administrative panel consisting of the Dean of Students or their designee and an Academic Faculty Dean or their faculty designee.

6. Charge
1. Following receipt of the investigators’ report and designation of the Hearing Panel, the Dean of Students shall prepare a charge that includes a brief description of the alleged violation. The Dean of Students shall then serve the student charged with a copy of the charge and the names of the Hearing Panel member. 2. The Dean of Students shall provide a copy of the charge to the Complainant. 3. Within one day of the receipt of the names of Hearing Panel members, the student charged may challenge any member by submitting to the Dean of Students a written statement specifying why the panel member should not serve. The Dean of Students shall determine if just cause exists to remove the Panel Member and shall notify the accused of new Panel Members. The accused then has the right to object to any new Member following the procedures in this section. If a student is charged with a violation of this Code within two weeks prior to the student’s graduation, the Secretary shall make every reasonable effort to conclude the procedures under this Code prior to the student’s graduation. If the procedures are not completed prior to graduation, the University reserves the right to delay the student’s graduation until the case is fully adjudicated.

7. Plea
Upon receipt of the charge and at any time before the hearing, the accused may then admit or deny the charge, in whole or in part. Accused students must always speak for themselves and not through their chosen advisor.

a. If the accused admits the charge, the Panel shall receive mitigating circumstances before retiring to deliberate on a sanction.

b. If the accused student denies the charge, the student shall have the opportunity to question the complainant and witnesses and submit statements or evidence to prove their innocence.

c. If the accused refuses to enter a plea or speak on his own behalf, the Panel shall enter a plea of not responsible for the accused and proceed with the hearing. No inference of responsibility may be drawn from the silence of the accused.

8. Hearing Procedures
a. The hearing shall be held in private. Witnesses may attend only to present their testimony. Panel members, witnesses, and others involved in the hearing shall not discuss the case with anyone outside the hearing.

b. The student charged, the Dean of Students, the complainant and all witnesses must attend the hearing. In addition to those required by the Honor Council to attend, a University of Miami undergraduate student, faculty, or staff advisor may attend and assist the accused. Such an advisor may not speak on behalf of the accused.

c. If a student enters a plea of “responsible” when charged by the Dean of Students, the Panel may elect to not hear witnesses or the complainant.

d. It is not the function of the Panel to act as prosecutor of the case against the student charged, but to examine all evidence in order to ascertain the truth of the matter.

e. If a question of policy or procedure not covered by this Code arises during the course of a hearing, the Panel shall determine the question by majority vote of the members present.

f. The Hearing Panel may, at any time, conform the charge to the evidence received, provided the student charged is given an opportunity to respond. If the modification occurs during the Panel deliberations following a hearing, the hearing shall be reopened.

9. Presentation of Information
1. The speaker of the Panel shall commence the hearing by reading the charge and any statements received from the complainant. The Panel shall hear a report of the investigation. The Investigators shall remain in the hearing as resources for the Panel, but shall not participate in deliberations or vote with the Panel. The Panel and the accused student may then question the investigators.

2. The Hearing Panel may consider an affidavit or written statement against the student charged only if the person giving the affidavit or statement is present at the hearing. The Panel shall allow the student charged an opportunity to rebut any fact or inference that might be drawn therefrom.

10. Witnesses
1. A witness may refuse to answer a question if the answer, if truthful, might incriminate the witness.

2. A student witness called by the Panel may be sanctioned by the Panel for refusing to appear without good cause. The Panel shall determine if the witness’s reasons constitute good cause.

11. Deliberation
1. When the Panel is satisfied it has heard all evidence in a case it shall request summary statements before it retires to deliberate to determine responsibility based on clear and convincing evidence. A super-majority vote (3 out of 4) is required to find the accused responsible.

2. The Panel shall not consider prior Responsible findings under this Code in deciding responsibility.

12. Mitigation Hearing – Finding of Responsible
A student who enters a plea of responsible or is found responsible by the Panel shall be given an opportunity to present evidence relevant to the determination of the sanction(s).
13. Dismissal – No Finding of Responsible

1. If the complaint is dismissed or the student is found not responsible, no record of any Complaint against a student shall appear in the student's file, or other official University record. Additionally, no sanction can be imposed even if sanctions were recommended by the faculty member and/or provided for in the faculty member's syllabus.

2. If substantial time has elapsed between the occurrence of the alleged violation and the filing of the complaint, the panel shall dismiss the complaint if it determines, by majority vote of those present, that the passage of time has materially prejudiced its ability to reach a fair decision in the case.

14. Affirmative Rights of the Accused

1. The accused has the right to challenge the hearing date, time or location. The objection must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Honor Council within one (1) day of the receipt of the charge. The objection must fully explain the reasons for the request.

2. The accused has the right to choose a University of Miami undergraduate student, faculty, or staff member to attend the hearing and assist them. Such an advisor cannot speak on the accused's behalf.

3. The accused has the right to question the complainant and witnesses and submit statements or evidence to prove not responsible, if they deny the charge(s).

4. The accused has the right to remain silent and no inference may be drawn from this silence.

5. The accused has the right to call witnesses and present evidence in their defense. A student may offer a written request to the Panel that the Panel call specific witnesses for him/her if those witnesses have previously refused to appear and are shown in the request to be material to the accused student's defense. The Panel shall determine a witnesses' materiality based on the statement presented by the accused.

6. The accused has the right to present evidence of mitigating circumstances before the Panel retires to deliberate on a sanction, if the accused enters a plea of responsible, or is found responsible.

7. The accused, if found responsible, has the right to review a written summary upon which the finding of responsibility and sanction were based.

Parties will have the right to appeal to the Appeals Board after the Honor Council's decision is rendered. Appeals must be in writing, addressed to the Appeals Board and, be submitted within three (3) days of receipt of the hearing summary. The only grounds for an appeal, however, are: (i) the failure to follow the procedures established for adjudication of an academic integrity violation constituted an error; or (ii) the sanction(s) imposed was (were) not commensurate with the offense.

15. Sanctions

Penalties shall be based on the severity of the violation and shall consist of one or more of the following:

1. a. Disciplinary Warning
   b. Strict Disciplinary Probation
   c. Final Disciplinary Probation
   d. Suspension from the University
   e. Expulsion from the University
   f. University service
   g. Minimum "F" on the assignment (grade penalties may only be 'suggested' to the instructor of record. Students who wish to appeal grades assigned by the instructor may do so by appealing to the Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee)
   h. Maximum "XF" in the Class
   i. Other appropriate action as approved by the Academic Integrity Committee or the Honor Council

2. Failure to comply with any of the above penalties may result in additional sanctions.

3. The Panel may consider prior discipline in assessing sanctions.

4. When instructors have clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, such grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions recommended by the AIC, Honor Council, and/or Appeals Board but they will not impact any other disciplinary sanctions imposed by these adjudicatory bodies.

16. Panel's Decision

1. The Panel's decision shall be made promptly after the Hearing. However, when considering complaints involving more than one accused student, the Panel may postpone judgment until the completion of the hearings for all students under the given complaint.

2. Notice thereof shall be given to the Student and Complainant. The student charged may elect to hear the decision of the Panel in person at the conclusion of the Panel's deliberations or elect to be notified of the decision at a later time by the Secretary.

3. In reporting its decision to the student charged, the Panel shall provide a written summary of its reasons for the decision.

4. Parties will have the right to appeal to the Appeals Board after Honor Council's determination. The only grounds for an appeal are: (i) the failure to follow the procedures established for adjudication of an academic integrity violation constituted an error; or (ii) the sanction(s) imposed was (were) not commensurate with the offense.
5. When instructors have clearly outlined expectations and grade sanctions in their syllabus, such grade sanctions will supersede the grade sanctions recommended by the Honor Council but they will not impact any other disciplinary sanctions imposed by the Honor Council. The adjudication process will continue as outlined herein even if the student withdraws from the course. If the student is found responsible, the course where the violation occurred will reflect on the student’s transcript with a failing grade (in addition to any others).

**B. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This version of the University of Miami Undergraduate Honor Code is effective as of the beginning of the Fall 2021 semester.

**C. AMENDMENT OF THIS CODE**

1. The Honor Code, itself, may be amended solely by formal action of the President of the University following consultation with the students and approval of the Faculty Senate.
2. The provisions of this Honor Code document as written are subject to change. Please contact the Dean of Students for information regarding any changes.

The full policy (Faculty Senate Legislation #2014-41(B) can be found here ([https://doso.studentaffairs.miami.edu/_assets/pdf/honor-council/academic-integrity-policy-final-changes-accepted-2018-411.pdf](https://doso.studentaffairs.miami.edu/_assets/pdf/honor-council/academic-integrity-policy-final-changes-accepted-2018-411.pdf)).

**Appeals and Readmission**

Students who wish to appeal their Academic probation or dismissal for academic reasons, must do so in writing to the School or College Academic Standards Committee within thirty days of the notice of dismissal. Those who have been dismissed for academic reasons shall not be considered for readmission to any school or college at the University until at least two regular semesters have elapsed since their dismissal.

**Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee Standard Academic Appeals Process**

The Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee (FSSAC) has responsibility for undergraduate student academic appeals. The FSSAC includes faculty representatives from all undergraduate schools as well as three non-voting ex officio representatives: a graduate and undergraduate student representative and the University ombudsperson. The FSSAC reviews undergraduate student academic appeals that have not been resolved at the department, school, or college levels. As noted in section II below, the FSSAC hears cases only after they have gone through the departmental and college process. The processes are the same for grade and non-grade appeals except as noted below.

FSSAC does not hear appeals for retroactively adding, dropping, modifying, or withdrawing from specific courses after the published academic calendar dates ([https://registrar.miami.edu/dates-and-deadlines/academic-calendars/](https://registrar.miami.edu/dates-and-deadlines/academic-calendars/)).

**I. Time Constraints**

Appeals must be filed within a year of the occurrence of the academic action resulting in the appeal and prior to the completion of all degree requirements or withdrawal from the University. Exceptions to this deadline may be permitted by the FSSAC for good cause.

Each level of appeal should aim to review the appeal and arrive at judgment within a two-month period from the date the appeal reaches them. The entire process should be completed within one year.

**II. Order of Appeal**

A student appeal regarding a faculty or administrative academic action must be addressed to the following entities or persons in this order:

1. The faculty member or administrator responsible for the course, program, or activity.
2. The department/program chair/director or administrative superior of the faculty member or administrator.
3. The Dean or designee of the school or college offering the course, program or activity.
4. If the school, college or administrative unit has a committee constituted to hear student appeals, that committee must be consulted before proceeding to the next level.
5. The ombudsperson. The student is to provide the materials listed in Section III below to the ombudsperson who will review the merits of the appeal, and attempt to resolve the matter. The ombudsperson, as part of his/her review should give the student a preliminary assessment as to whether the matter, as presented by the student at that time, is reviewable by the FSSAC.
   If the matter is the appeal of a final grade, and only after all the other steps are taken, the ombudsperson may refer the matter to the Provost who will decide whether or not to refer the appeal to the FSSAC.
   For a non-grade-appeal, the student has the final authority to decide whether to take the appeal to FSSAC. If s/he chooses to do so, the ombudsperson shall forward the appeal and the accompanying documentation to the FSSAC via the Faculty Senate Office.
6. The Provost may request that the FSSAC review an appeal. If, but only if, s/he does so, the FSSAC shall have jurisdiction to review a grade-related appeal.
   a. As part of the request, the Provost shall forward to the FSSAC, via the Faculty Senate office, the materials submitted by the student as indicated in Section III, below.
b. The FSSAC will review the student’s written appeal (see section III below), confer with the appropriate faculty, administrators, and others as it deems necessary in making its recommendation to the Provost. The FSSAC may request an interview with the student, additional information or access to records, interviews with relevant faculty or administrators, or additional information or access to records kept by faculty or administrators.

c. The FSSAC will communicate its findings and recommendations to the Provost. Copies shall be provided to the Faculty Senate.

7. The final decision with respect to the grade-related appeal will be made by the Provost and communicated to the student in writing. Copies shall be provided to the Faculty Senate Office and to the Chair of the FSSAC.

8. For non-grade-related academic appeals:
   a. The FSSAC shall act upon those appeals and report its findings and recommendation to the Provost. The Committee shall forward to the Chair of the Faculty Senate a copy of its recommendation to the Provost.
   b. The Provost shall communicate his/her decision on each recommendation to the student concerned, to the Chair of the Committee, and the Chair of the Faculty Senate.

III. Materials for an Appeal

When bringing an appeal, the student must state in writing issues s/he wishes to have considered. The appeal must include:

1. An appeal letter clearly stating the conditions as seen by the student, and offering reasons for granting the appeal.
2. The appeal letter must indicate if the student wishes to make a personal appearance and, if so, the reasons why the appearance is necessary.
3. Documents of support (e.g., examinations, term papers, syllabi, or medical documentation of illness) that the student wishes to have examined.
4. All written decisions made at earlier levels of the appeal by individual faculty/administrators, departments/programs/administrative units, college or school committees, and deans which are available to the student or in the student’s possession.

IV. Other Notes and Special Conditions

1. If the appeal is based on or related to a charge made by the student of discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or handicap, a representative of the appropriate University office will be contacted and, as appropriate, consulted in the appeal process.
2. If the appeal is based on or related to a disability:
   a. The ADA Coordinating Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity.
   b. The student is to include in the materials provided, the appropriate forms from the Office of Disability Services documenting:
      i. An evaluation of the disability
      ii. Recommendations related to the disability
   c. The FSSAC does not consider appeals based upon the grant, denial or modification of an accommodation by the Office of Disability Services. Instead, any such appeal is as prescribed by the Office of Disability Services Grievance Procedure only.

Honor Rolls

The Dean’s List

The Dean’s List is composed of those undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree-seeking program and have attained high scholastic achievement for the semester. To attain the Dean’s List, a student must, for the semester:

1. have registered for and have completed 12 or more graded credit hours (excluding the credit hours earned in courses taken for credit only);
2. have attained a quality point average of 3.50 or higher for the semester;
3. have no courses with pending grades (I or NG).

The Office of the University Registrar will post this achievement to the student’s permanent record.

The Provost’s Honor Roll

The Provost’s Honor Roll is composed of those undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree-seeking program and have attained a high scholastic achievement for the semester. To attain the Provost’s Honor Roll, a student must, for the semester:

1. have registered for and have completed 12 or more graded credit hours (excluding the credit hours earned in courses taken for credit hour only);
2. have attained a quality point average of 3.75 or higher for the semester;
3. have no courses with pending grades (I or NG).

The Office of the University Registrar will post this achievement to the student’s permanent record.

The President’s Honor Roll

The President’s Honor Roll is composed of those undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree-seeking program and have attained the highest possible scholastic achievement for the semester. To attain the President’s Honor Roll a student must, for the semester:
1. have registered for and completed 12 or more graded credit hours (excluding credit hours earned in courses taken for credit only);  
2. have attained a quality point average of 4.0 for the semester;  
3. have no courses with pending grades (I or NG).  

The Office of the University Registrar will post this achievement to the student's permanent record.