

MORGANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

As a student at Morgantown High School, you have entered a community of student scholars and educators who are committed to excellence in education. Although you are under no obligation to participate with this Honor Code, perhaps you will take the time to read and think about what you want your education to mean to you. Should you agree with the items stated in this document, you may sign and return it to the educator whom provided you with this document. It is assumed that all students will pursue their studies with integrity and honesty. This means that all work for which the student wants to receive a grade, credit or recognition will be the work of the individual student. Academic honesty is a very serious commitment to make so please do not do so lightly.

What is an Academic Honor Code?

The two most commonly known forms of academic dishonesty are plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of someone else as your own and not citing the source or giving credit to the original source. Any time a student turns in work for a grade, credit or recognition without giving credit to the original source of the work presented that is not that of the student is plagiarism. Cheating is the act of not doing your own work but trying to use the work of others to obtain a grade, credit or recognition. Cheating can also be “borrowing” the work of another person in order to obtain a grade, credit or recognition. This also includes any work obtained by electronic devices such as computers or cell phones, etc, or using electronic devices to alter grades or information without permission to do so.

What are examples of Plagiarism?

1. Using the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of another person’s work or writings without giving appropriate credit. Using another person’s work as though it is your own is plagiarism. Any “borrowing” of someone else’s work is plagiarism.
2. Using a paper or materials purchased from someone else for the sole purpose of obtaining a grade, credit or recognition.
3. Use of Internet sources that are not cited in work you turn in for the sole purpose of obtaining a grade, credit or recognition for yourself is plagiarism.
4. Any undocumented sources used as your own are plagiarism.

What are examples of Cheating?

1. Copying or borrowing any part of another person's work on a test or quiz and representing it as your own work is cheating.
2. Turning in work that has been previously turned in for another class as though it is the work for the class you are turning it into for a grade, credit or recognition is cheating.
3. Changing your grade without permission from the educator.
4. Using unauthorized devices to obtain a grade.
5. Using any materials that misrepresent your own work.

In other words, by signing this contract you are stating that you will not cheat. You will turn in work that is your own and will not use the work of others to try to get ahead academically in your classes. You will not cheat on quizzes, tests, class projects or homework. You will not permit others to use your work as though it is their own in order to obtain a grade, credit or recognition. You hold a high standard for yourself and others and you will not permit others to cheat from you or condone cheating in any way. If you witness or know of cheating, you will alert an authority, even if you have to do so anonymously for your own safety.

This Honor Code may include other examples that will be stated to you by the educator that is giving you this contract. This code is strictly between you and the educator. In signing this contract, you are stating that you will try your best to obtain high standards that include your personal honesty and integrity. Please consider carefully before signing and know that this code is for your own academic protection while being a student at Morgantown High School.

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I believe that I am a student of honesty and integrity and agree to abide by the Honor Code. I WILL NOT CHEAT!

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

TEACHER SIGNATURE

DATE