Honesty

Why Is Academic Integrity Important?
Facilitation Guide

What is it?
ASU’s focus on innovation depends on academic integrity to ensure the validity of the research that drives that innovation. Honesty in research and the integrity of research findings provides the basis of well-informed decision-making. In this 2-minute video, Associate Professor Keone McGuire of ASU’s Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College introduces incoming ASU students to the importance of academic integrity, providing the basis for a short discussion on the role of honesty in the learning community.

Why use it?
Within the framework of Principled Innovation, the asset of honesty is defined in this way:

**Honesty** is being open, trustworthy and truthful in a sincere and straightforward way.

This fundamental character asset is an essential component in the two practices within the Moral dimension of PI. Honesty enables true communication to take place with stakeholders about what their values are (Practice M1), without which it is impossible to understand the criteria by which a community will judge the moral and ethical character of PI decisions (Practice M2). Further, in making moral and ethical decisions, integrity must saturate the research processes which supply the data for those decisions lest the decisions lead to disastrous results that cause lasting harm to stakeholders.

Academic integrity is a practical starting point for students to grapple with the importance of honesty and truthfulness in their professional lives. Review this short video with university students as part of a discussion on teacher professionalism, helping them to consider the implications of both honesty and dishonesty for themselves and for their communities.

What you need
- Time: 5-10 minutes of participants’ time
- Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI_LGLFhPPc&t=1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI_LGLFhPPc&t=1s)
- Individual activity or group participants
Instructions

Step 1: Situate

To start this activity, ask the participants to watch the video and to think about the implications of what Dr. McGuire says for their professional lives. Then play the video.

Step 2: Discuss

Using the content under the “Why Use It?” section above as a framework for guiding this short discussion, consider asking the following questions:

1. In this video, Dr. McGuire says that academic integrity can affect…

   … future employers, clients, patients, or even future students. If you fail to learn how to do the work, it also cheats these people of the full knowledge and scope of the profession. It can also harm ASU, a community that holds the creation, transmission, sharing and applying of knowledge core to the fundamental values of the university community.

   How does academic integrity affect each of these, positively or negatively?
   a. Future employers (schools, principals, district leaders, etc.)
   b. Clients (parents)
   c. Patients (students)
   d. Future students at ASU

2. How does strong integrity in research positively affect the quality of innovation?
3. How are entire communities of learning damaged by a failure in academic integrity?
4. How does academic honesty affect your ability to flourish as a professional?