

Seton Hall University School of Law

Honor Code for Online Certificate and Degree Programs

1. Purposes

The purposes of this Code are to instill in every student the values and teachings of Seton Hall University School of Law and the standards of the legal profession; to establish the minimum standards of conduct for students within the law school community; to preserve and enhance the School of Law's reputation; and to evaluate allegations of student misconduct that disrupts, obstructs, or interferes with the mission or functions of the law school.

2. Applicability and Jurisdiction

(a) This Code extends to all students in online certificate and degree programs at Seton Hall University School of Law throughout their enrollment at the School of Law.

(b) If a student commits academic improprieties that are not discovered until after a certificate or degree is granted, the issuance of the certificate or degree will not prevent prosecution for those improprieties. Proceedings against a student may not, however, commence later than three months after the student's enrollment at the School of Law has ceased.

Scope of the Code

(a) Prohibited conduct committed by a law student while engaged in academic activity will be subject to discipline under this Code, regardless of whether or not the prohibited conduct occurs on University property.

(1) "Academic activity" is defined as any activity that may affect a grade or that in any way contributes to the satisfaction of the program requirements.

(2) Academic activity shall include but shall not be limited to the following:

- (i) any posting on Blackboard in connection with the course;
- (ii) any course assignment, including research related to completing the assignment;
- (iii) any work that satisfies any requirement for the receipt of credit in whole or in part;
- (iv) any conduct relating to the misappropriation of study material, such as notes, papers, books, or tapes; or
- (v) any examination.

Other Discipline Permitted

Nothing in the Code shall prevent any faculty member from enforcing standards and rules established for the purpose of evaluating students' academic performance. Nor shall the Code limit any faculty member's power to deny, reduce, or cancel grades, or preclude a student from sitting for an examination for any class due to a student's failure to adhere to the faculty member's rules. A faculty member's disciplinary authority exists notwithstanding the Code's authority over a student's conduct and irrespective of whether the student is acquitted of any alleged violation of the Code.

3. Impermissible Conduct in Academic Pursuit or Competition

No student shall, with fraudulent or deceitful intent, engage in any academic pursuit or competition, including, but not limited to, the following conduct:

- (a) Making a material misrepresentation to a member of the faculty or administration or to any law school employee respecting law school admission, financial aid, academic credit or standing, or any matter concerning enforcement of this Code;
- (b) Submitting plagiarized work in any pursuit of academic credit or competition. For the purposes of the Code, the term "plagiarized work" shall mean any use of fifteen (15) or more consecutive words without the use of quotations and a citation to the source of such material, or any substantial reliance on the ideas or words of another (whether or not including a verbatim quote) without proper attribution;
- (c) Offering or submitting work previously submitted or concurrently submitted by that student for academic credit to another instructor or in another course, except as authorized by each instructor;
- (d) Signing another's name or allowing another to sign one's name in any manner that can affect academic credit.

4. Sanctions

Procedures for Imposing Sanctions

All reports of student misconduct shall be referred to a Panel consisting of one (1) tenured faculty member and one (1) administrator. A faculty member or administrator who is involved in the reporting of student misconduct shall not be eligible to serve on the Panel. The Panel shall determine, in its sole discretion, whether or not a student has violated the Code. If the Panel determines that the student has violated the Code, the Panel shall impose a sanction. If the Panel determines that a student has not violated the Code, the Panel shall give written notice of that determination to the student, to the reporting person(s) and to any faculty member whose course grade is affected by the action. The decisions of the Panel shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Sanctions

The Panel may impose any of the following sanctions deemed appropriate in light of the facts, the severity of the offense, and any aggravating or mitigating circumstances:

- (1) A private or public reprimand, to be either maintained as part of the student's permanent record or to be expunged from his or her record after a certain period, provided that during the time the student has not been charged with any further violation of the Code;
- (2) Reducing a student's grade in a course, including assigning the student a grade of F;
- (3) Dismissing a student from the program;

- (4) Disciplinary probation, as a condition thereof the student shall be notified that another violation of the Code while on probation may result in a more serious sanction than the second offense might otherwise carry, including dismissal from the program. The Panel may attach to disciplinary probation other conditions it deems appropriate.

5. Student Affirmation of Compliance

All students participating in an online certificate or degree program at Seton Hall Law School must read and agree to comply with this Honor Code.