Academic Integrity Preface. The two most common kinds of academic dishonesty are cheating and plagiarism. Cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of dishonest, deceptive or fraudulent means. Plagiarism is representing the work of someone else as your own and submitting it for any purpose. For Students. Academic integrity is the basis of the trust we place in each other to competently perform our duties during our time at Foothill and when we eventually leave to fill other roles in society. In addition, a degree from a college with a reputation for academic integrity can carry more weight than one from an institution where academic dishonesty is tolerated.