MITIGATING STUDENT CHEATING
There are Many Ways to Cheat
There are Many Ways to Cheat
Technology Creates New Ways to Cheat
Outline

• Problem statement
• Reporting cheating at OSU
• An economic perspective on cheating
• Literature review
• Canvas tips
• Open discussion
Cheating is Epidemic and Involves Many

- Cheating reduces incentives to learn. Unfair to honest students. Undermines value of college degree
- >75% percent of students on most college campuses admit to some cheating (Hutton 2006). Public schools worse than private
- <2% of cheaters are caught (Hutton 2006)
- Problem involves students, instructors/professors, department heads, deans, Office of Student Conduct, Office of Advocacy
Cheating & International Students

At OSU:

• 53% of those accused are international students
• 12% of students are international students

(Daniel Dietz, OSU Office of Advocacy)
Due Process and Grievances

Academic penalties/sanctions below are not subject to faculty decision without student having due process. If faculty is going to give a penalty, they should file an Academic Misconduct Report.

Assigning a penalty for violation of the Student Conduct Code without due process may result in student filing a grievance against faculty and university

Penalties for the occurrence:
- Zero on assignment/exam
- Partial points on an assignment/exam
- Revision with reduced points
- F in the course
- No penalty

Possible Sanctions:
- SCCS Academic Integrity Course
- OSU Library Academic Integrity tutorial
Reporting Cheating

Academic misconduct page for faculty

• Report Misconduct
• The Academic Integrity Process
• Addressing Academic Misconduct
• Strategies for Preventing Academic Misconduct
• Suggested Syllabus Statements
The Instructor/Faculty Role

• Consult with department head (in accordance with AR 15 and departmental protocols)

• Submit Academic Misconduct Report. Provides portal to upload documents related to allegation of academic misconduct, including physical evidence of misconduct, course syllabus, email correspondence, etc.

• Managing any grade adjustments and providing additional information as needed.
An Economic Perspective on Cheating

- Eliminating cheating is inefficient
- Preventing cheating in the first place helps faculty avoid submitting Academic Misconduct Report
- What are the best approaches to mitigate student cheating?
Literature Review

Hutton’s (2006) review combines economic theories of benefit/cost analysis and unobservable behavior, with social network analysis

• “students cheat because the benefit/cost trade off favors cheating”
• “problem of unobservable behavior can be substantially mitigated by promoting academic integrity as the social norm”
• “development of more and stronger relationships between college students have helped to promote cheating.” “Cliques”
• Peers, instructors, and institutional policies and characteristics, are better predictors of cheating than individual student characteristics
Hutton (2006) makes four recommendations for educators

1. Communicate expectations, monitoring, and enforcement ("behavioral leadership")
   - Written and oral communication
   - Peer monitoring
   - Less cheating in private institutions than in public institutions, perhaps due to honor codes, class size, and better detection and reporting (pp. 173).
Literature Review

2. Developing connections with students in the classroom “participative leadership”
   • Encourage communication
   • Make students feel valued
   • Respect instructor, less likely to justify cheating and think subject matter is uninteresting, difficult, or that instructor is indifferent
   • “Simply making the effort to know each student's name creates stronger connections.” (pp. 175)
3. Course design

• Focus on reducing “groupthink” and formation of “cliques”

• More likely with team projects, choosing own team, and maintain team for multiple projects

• Individual assignments maintain individual accountability and create vertical connections between students and instructor.

• Strike a balance between team and individual assignments
Literature Review

4. Developing connections with students outside the classroom
   • Office hours
   • Offering academic/career advice
   • Serving as faculty advisors to student organizations/clubs
   • Contributing articles/opinion pieces to student newspapers
   • Using listserves and electronic discussion boards to communicate regularly with students
Kerkvliet and Sigmund (1999)

• Survey given to 597 on-campus students at two public universities, in 12 econ principles classes, taught by 7 different instructors in the same academic year

• Respondents were asked whether they had ever cheated on an exam in the class they were surveyed

• Data used to estimate model that predicts probability of cheating on exam from independent variables of student characteristics
Literature Review

Marginal effects on the probability of exam cheating:
• -12.5% if additional warning given
• +31.8% if taught by GTA
• -11.1% for each additional exam proctor
• -25.3% for each additional version of the exam
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Discussions

• Obvious: When editing/creating a Canvas discussion, require that “Users must post before seeing replies”

• Not so obvious: Unselecting students ability to edit and delete their posts.
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Discussions
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Written Assignments

• Turnitin has been updated. Supports group assignments and rubrics. Quick reference guide shows how you can enable it.
• Existing Turnitin assignments don’t need to be changed.
• Streamlines process for creation and submission.
• Learn more about the features of these integrations, or contact Ecampus Faculty Support with any questions.
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Quizzes

Question Groups
- Randomizes questions students receive
- Randomizes question order

https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-12979
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Quizzes

Shuffle Answers

• Randomizes order of question's answer choices

• If quiz question has answer like “all of the above/below” or “answers A & C”, do not shuffle answers
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Quizzes

Time Limit

• Limits amount of time students have to take quiz
• In a non-proctored quiz, time limit cuts down time students have to look up answers and discuss with other students
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Quizzes

Let Students See Their Quiz Responses

• Allows students that submitted quiz to see (1) the quiz questions & answer options, (2) the answer options the student selected, (3) if they got a question incorrect or partially incorrect, and (4) ALL question feedback.

• Shown regardless of the due and until dates

• Suggest leaving box unchecked until after the due/unti date(s)

• Suggest **Let Students See Correct Answers** after due/unti date(s)
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Quizzes

• Quiz Availability
• To mitigate cheating, it is best to have a quiz open the least amount of time as possible
Mitigating Cheating in Canvas Quizzes
Open Discussion

Questions to consider:

• Have you observed student cheating? How where they cheating?
• Other approaches for mitigating student cheating?
• Does anyone have experience submitting an Academic Misconduct Report?
References
