

**IB EXTENDED ESSAY**  
**LESSON #4**  
**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

## **OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC HONESTY**

The focus of the Extended Essay is on research and so you will be using other people's ideas. It's therefore important that you understand how to do in a clear, open and honest way. This is called maintaining 'academic honesty'.

Academic honesty is an extremely important issue and you need to be aware of this right from the start. You will often be working without direct supervision from a teacher and you will be doing an assessment piece where you are trusted to follow the directions as indicated.

You are expected to make sensible decisions about when to make contact with your classmates, students in your physical school and others, as well as about what contact is appropriate. It's generally a good thing to seek help or discuss ideas and work with others, however, there are times when this is not appropriate.

The academic world is based on trust and honesty. It is quite easy to gain a minor advantage by not following the instructions. However, apart from the risk of getting caught and the measures that would follow from that, in the longer term, such behavior is extremely counter-productive.

- Firstly, the nature of the online course is very transparent and your teacher will get to know your 'voice' very quickly. Tools such as turnitin.com will be used to support academic honesty. In the extended essay interviews/meetings are conducted at regular intervals.
- Secondly this is something that it is important to understand for academic work in other subject areas and if you proceed to further education.

### **YOUR OWN WORK**

It is clearly stated in the IB regulations that:

*All work submitted to the IB for moderation or assessment must be authenticated by a teacher, and must not include any known instances of suspected or confirmed malpractice. Each student must confirm that the work is his or her authentic work and constitutes the final version of that work. Once a student has officially submitted the final version of the work to a teacher (or the coordinator) for internal assessment, it cannot be retracted.*

In practice, this means the student and teacher must positively state that the work is genuine and malpractice (plagiarism and collusion) has not taken place. If a teacher cannot positively confirm this, he or she will not submit the work.

## **Malpractice**

Being academically dishonest is often put under the general term of malpractice. So what counts as malpractice?

Take a look at the terms below and make sure you understand them.

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is the representation of the ideas or work of another person as one's own. Examples of this type of malpractice are: the submission of someone else's work (in part or whole) as if it were your own without acknowledging the original source of the work; not using quotation marks to acknowledge that someone else's exact words are used; an incorrect citation of a quote or idea irrespective of whether or not the source is published or unpublished.

### **COLLUSION**

Collusion is working with another student or students on a final paper that will be submitted; allowing another student to copy an examination, homework or any type of assignment; sharing information regarding the content of an assessment piece that is unknown to them. It is possible that within an institution there may be two pieces of work submitted that are on similar topics, but it is expected that the written submission will have been undertaken independently and will therefore be different. In any educational environment, students will often work together at a planning phase and this style of cooperation is to be encouraged. There is a difference between cooperation and collusion. If in doubt, consult your extended essay supervisor.

### **CHEATING**

Cheating is the attempt to use some form of assistance that is not permitted when completing a piece of work of examination. This includes having some other person write the whole or part of an assignment (irrespective of payment); copying work from another student, with or without their consent; any sort of contact with another person in an examination situation.

### **FABRICATION**

Fabrication is the creation of false data or fake citations. This includes the analysis of data from qualitative or quantitative analysis and primary data.

### **DUPLICATION**

Duplication of work is the presentation of the same work for two separate assignments. The IB does not allow the submission of the same piece of work for two different

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### **Other Types of Academic Misconduct**

Other types of behavior that would result in a possible academic misconduct investigation by the IB include breaches of ethical guidelines or research areas that are deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.

The IB provides guidelines that must be followed when conducting field work and gathering data. There are also additional guidelines for the sciences, psychology and social and cultural anthropology. (Please refer to the individual subject guides for more information.)

## **Academic Honesty**

