

# Report to Senate on Academic Integrity Offences 2023-2024

October 15, 2024

Office of the Provost & VP Academic

**Undergraduate Academic Integrity Policy**

The Academic Integrity policy enacted by Senate in 2009 (revised 2013, 2023) is administered by the Deans of Arts & Science, Education, Nursing, and Durham with a requirement that a report on the actions taken under the policy be provided annually to Senate and published on the [Academic Integrity website](http://www.trentu.ca/academicintegrity). The website provides information on the policy, the process that is followed if academic dishonesty is found, and links to several sources of support for students and course instructors. Below is a summary (Table 1) of the 2023-2024 academic dishonesty offences by department, separated into the two major categories: copying/cheating and plagiarism.

**Table 1.** Summary of academic dishonesty offences from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024 with comparisons to the previous two years

| **Subject** | **Copying/ Cheating Major** | **Copying/ Cheating Minor** | **Plagiarism Major** | **Plagiarism Minor** | **Total 2023-24** | **Total 2022-23** | **Total 2021-22** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ADMN | 34 | 77 |  | 82 | 193 | 20 | 16 |
| AHCL |  | 4 |  | 5 | 9 | 4 | 1 |
| ANTH |  | 6 |  | 22 | 28 | 1 | 2 |
| ASCI |  |  |  |  | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| BIOL | 1 | 14 |  | 8 | 23 | 11 | 31 |
| CAST |  | 1 |  |  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| COMM |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CHEM |  | 6 |  | 7 | 13 | 11 | 6 |
| CHYS |  |  |  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| COIS |  | 6 |  |  | 6 | 23 | 14 |
| CUST | 1 |  | 1 |  | 2 | 5 | 15 |
| ECON | 1 | 2 |  | 2 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| EDUC |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ENGL |  |  |  | 3 | 3 | 15 | 14 |
| ERSC/T |  | 1 |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| FREN |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| FRSC | 2 | 1 |  |  | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| GESO |  | 1 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| GEOG |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HIST |  | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 11 | 1 |
| INDG |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IDST |  |  |  |  | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| KINE |  |  |  |  | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| MATH | 2 |  |  |  | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| NURS |  | 5 |  | 5 | 10 | 14 | 39 |
| PHIL | 1 | 4 |  | 3 | 8 | 6 | 10 |
| PHYS |  |  |  |  | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| PLCW |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| POST |  |  |  |  | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| PSYC | 2 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 21 | 9 | 7 |
| SOCI |  |  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 10 |
| SWRK |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Registrar | 1 |  | 1 |  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | **45** | **139** | **5** | **151** | **340** | **155** | **179** |

Depending on the category of the subsequent offence, the policy stipulates that a period of suspension be imposed when a second or third offence occurs. Table 2 provides summary information on number of multiple offenders and number of students who were suspended or expelled. Students have several levels of appeal open to them. First, they can appeal to the chair of the department. The second level of appeal is to the dean following the decision by the chair. Lastly, students who are dissatisfied with the decision by the dean may petition to the Special Appeals Committee.

**Offences Involving Use of AI Generators**

Of the total 340 offences in 2023-2024, 75 involved unauthorized use of an AI generator as defined in the Academic Integrity Policy.

**Offences Involving Sharing and Distribution of Course Content**

As per the Policy on the Sharing and Distribution of Course Content (enacted by Senate in 2020), sharing and distribution of any course content other than among individual students registered in the course is not permitted without written permission of the instructor. Of the total 340 offences in 2023-2024, none involved the sharing and distribution of course content.

**Table 2.** Three-Year Summary of Multiple Offenders, Suspensions/Expulsions and Appeals

| **Category** | **2023-24** | **2022-23** | **2021-22** | **2020-21** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Students with second or third offence (not necessarily in the same year) | 23 | 17 | 16 | 24 |
| Suspensions (one term to two years) | 10 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Expulsions | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Appeal to Dean successful – reduction in penalty | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Appeal to Dean unsuccessful | 25 | 12 | 15 | 8 |
| Special Appeal of Dean decision successful – reduction in penalty | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Special Appeal of Dean decision unsuccessful | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 |