GUIDE 6.0 Breaches of Assessment Regulations

Introduction

The Academic Council, at its meeting 31 on June 24, 2025, approved the Assessment Regulations for Taught Programmes for implementation for all students, starting in September 2025.

This ***Guide for Students & Staff*** outline provisions therein for Handling Violations of Assessment Regulations. General principles of the regulations require that, all students must complete assignments and other forms of assessment as part of their programme of studies, in a manner that adheres to the highest ethical, professional, and scholastic standards. Conduct falling short of such standards has the potential to corrupt our reputation as individuals, and harm the reputation of the university.

Any suspected breach of academic integrity, once established, is considered a serious offence contrary to section 11 of the University Assessment Regulations. There are principally two approaches to handle suspected breaches of academic integrity:

1. Procedures dealing with all submissions of any academic coursework for assessment conducted throughout the academic year;
2. Procedures to deal with suspected breaches that arise in formal end of semester/year examinations.

Suspected Breaches of any Academic Coursework conducted throughout the Academic Year.

The university maintains:

- Clear definitions for Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct, outline of distinct student behaviours that support or undermine principles of academic integrity, and process for identifying, avoidance and reporting of infringement.
- A comprehensive Academic Integrity Policy and Associated Procedures/Guidelines encompassing Declaration of Academic Integrity | Investigative Procedures | Guidelines on responsible use of Generative AI in Teaching and Learning.
- Academic Integrity Tariff Form for incident record, enabling academic staff to record and commence a formal investigation where suspected breach of academic integrity is deemed to have occurred.
- Description of the range of penalties for breach of academic integrity.

Taken together the referred policy, procedures and guidelines aim to increase awareness amongst the university community, both academic staff and students, to guard against any conduct that diminishes confidence in the value and reputation of our programmes and awards.

Suspected breaches of assessment regulations in formal end of semester/year exams.

If a breach of the regulations of formal examinations is suspected and is not covered by the provisions set out in the Academic Integrity Procedures, a formal investigation will then commence in accordance with the Assessment Regulations for Taught Programmes:

- Section 11.3 Procedures after notification of an assessment breach
- Section 11.4 Assessment Panel of Inquiry.

TU Dublin is committed to promote a culture amongst its students and academic staff, to uphold academic integrity. By adhering to this commitment, the university can have confidence the quality of its teaching, learning, and assessment.

Available Support

- To support the students and academic staff in awareness and adherence to the highest standards of academic integrity, all are auto-enrolled on academic integrity training and artificial intelligence training modules on Brightspace at: www.tudublin.ie/connect/vle/
- The Academic Integrity Resource Page for students and staff.
- Student Handbook issued by each school, and which contains a link to assessment regulations with signposts to specific sections covering Academic Integrity.
- A list Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) in which Section 13 specifically covering the Handling of Violations of Assessment Regulations.

For any questions or matters for clarification yet to be covered under the FAQ list, please contact qualityframework@tudublin.ie.