

Quotes about Academic Integrity from American University in Dubai (AUD) undergraduate students

Compiled and edited by **Jeanette Teh** (Assistant Professor of the School of Business Administration), **Tiara Willis**, and **Omar Abdel Raouf Maassrani**.

Honesty

“When someone cheats, he is lying to himself, and lying to the professor who is correcting his paper and giving him a good grade for something that the student hasn’t even studied. If a student starts cheating, and succeeds, he could go on in his life and continue cheating on others, whether it is in business matters or in his marital life.” ~ **Latifa Svidjee**

“Stealing is a federal offence and is punishable by law in most countries because it is unethical to take something that does not belong to you without another person’s approval. Cheating in the academic context is not much different. It is the act of taking someone’s valuable thoughts, ideas, answers, intellectual property, and hard work without their consent in order to advance.” ~ **Marina Shoughary**

“Cheating in academic life is an immoral way of achieving results. Why is cheating in our university assignments/exams unethical? Cheating means breaking the rules. As we entered the university, we have signed the university’s Honor Code, which means now we are bound to this contract. Therefore, we must follow it by any means necessary. Since the contract is the main pillar of any business, breaking the contract would be considered as unethical. Moreover, when someone cheats, he or she has an unfair advantage, which is not fair among the others. That is why, cheating in any kind of business or in academic life is unethical.” ~ **Almas Ziyabek**

“Donita K. Paul wrote that “there is never a right reason to do the wrong thing. Not ever”. Her statement explains why cheating is unethical”. ~ **Soheil Sagheb**

“Students must be educated that when they cheat, they would never feel satisfied with their achievements or succeed in their future careers. Schools and universities should also provide students with courses that encourage them to think critically about the different issues in real life. They should emphasize the ethical codes of the university and society which the students belong to and help to enforce the virtues of trust and honesty.” ~ **Basel Muwahid**

“Deontology theory explains that decisions should be made for the right reasons, and that a person is to act as if the whole world would act in a similar manner”. ~ **Molham Homs**

“Cheating in your education is like taking for granted what you are learning while also being credited for what you haven’t learned.” ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“It is immoral to cheat at the university level because that would show that you are not ready for the real working environment, because assignments and exams not only test your knowledge of the course, but they also test your capabilities in doing a task. Cheating in the academic context equals to stealing in the general context. When you cheat in academia, you are wrongfully stealing someone else’s work and presenting it as your own whether plagiarizing an assignment or writing your classmate’s answer on your exam paper. People should make decisions for the right reasons. Sadly, we are still college students and our moral compass does not exactly point north on several occasions. When you are crammed with assignments and exams, some may resort to shortcuts.” ~ **Mohamed Morsi**

“Honest students who work hard for the assignments and exams tend to be the losers in this conflict, as students who cheat are not only betraying themselves but the students and teachers as well.” ~ **Mustafa Ahmed**

“Your GPA is supposed to reflect your own work and not your wit or clever shortcuts that grant you what you want instead of what you deserve”. ~ **Molham Homs**

“Cheating is a very dishonest way of showing that you are not doing your duty of studying”. ~ **Suraj Aswaney**

“Cheating violates rules and regulations and also gains dishonesty in an assignment or exam.” ~ **Mustafa Ahmed**

“If people that cheat looked at cheating from a different perspective that it’s their duty to be honest and that the whole world would be watching them, they wouldn’t do it because simply no one would like to be scandalized and ashamed of cheating.” ~ **Logein Lasfar**

“Studying and doing our own work helps us grow in our educational life, it helps us learn, it helps people get where they want to be while being deserving of it. Cheating is considered unethical because it is basically using someone else’s work or words and claiming that they are yours. That is unethical because people would be taking credit for things they didn’t do or work for. Each person trying to cheat or plagiarize should ask himself or herself “Would I want another person stealing my hard work and claiming it to be theirs?” I’m sure the answer would be a ‘No’ since nobody likes to be taken advantage of. So why are universities so strict about

it? A university is a learning environment, which will always push a student to get to their outmost potential in education. Cheating is not considered a form of learning but more of a form of “getting by”. ~ **Alice Daniel**

“In any university cheating is considered unethical because it is a misrepresentation of the student’s capabilities and knowledge. It can be seen as a form of lying, because you are lying to your examiner about what you know and what you do not know. Instead of giving a reflection of what you have learnt, you are deceptive and giving someone else’s knowledge.” ~ **Leena Eltanbouli**

“Education is intended to encourage fairness and ethical behaviors such as honesty. It is unethical to feel pride during or after cheating on assignments and exams instead of guilt.” ~ **Karen Avetissyan**

“If we ask anyone what cheating is, that person may tell us that cheating is an act of dishonesty. Based on this answer, we have to ask ourselves, whom exactly we are lying to.” ~ **Dinara Kairbayeva**

Responsibility

“To hold the title of being an engineer, doctor and lawyer, among some, is to hold the responsibility of being able to perform what is asked of an engineer, doctor and lawyer.” ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“If the same students are allowed to pass their assignments or exams without any regard for their proficiency, the students might very well endanger their own lives or the lives of people around them”. ~ **Zainah Darwish**

“Examination and assignments are normally made to prepare you for the real world; by cheating you are hurting your chances of getting an education that prepares you for the real world.” ~ **Ammar Farough**

“Cheating is unethical as it might help an individual through the exam or assignment, however, the individual does not gain any significant knowledge and there is a high risk of being found out.” ~ **Siddarth Babani**

“Cheating in an exam even if the teachers didn’t catch you will negatively affect you. Because later on you will realize that you did not learn anything new in university because of cheating.”
~ **Omar Saleh**

“There are many negative consequences of cheating in college that most students fail to consider. The main problem is that cheating, even when undetected can harm not just the dishonest student but all his colleagues as well”. ~ **Shyair Ganglani**

“In my view, cheating is unethical because one doesn’t learn anything from it; it has more consequences if you are caught. Moreover, it takes more effort than to just study for exam. It is a waste of money and unfair to those who work hard to achieve something and to be better than others. Lastly, cheating might help one to maybe get an A too but what is the point if no knowledge can be applied in future corporate and real world because one didn’t learn anything.” ~ **Ayesha Bano**

“If you cheated in university you are lacking in one or more skills that could end up harming people, an example being a doctor accidentally killing a patient because he had cheated on the exam and had not learned the required skill or a building crashing down because an engineer didn’t calculate how much a pillar could hold correctly”. ~ **Taylor J. Saba**

“It’s funny how cheating is harder than studying once you take close look at it.” ~ **Suliat Oluwaseun Sule**

“One of the side effects of cheating is eliminating one’s innovation and original thinking. Cheaters make a wrong choice by producing a piece of work without utilizing their brain. Using your brain creates innovation and the more one utilizes the potential of their brain the more innovation is improved.” ~ **Abdullah Khayr**

“Taking every point into account, cheating shows a lack of both responsibility and knowledge. There is no need to cheat because all people have brains that they can use equally and parents, teachers, friends who can help them. If every person makes an effort to his or her education instead of taking the easy way out, there will more innovation and developments in our world. Since the younger generation is the future of every country. Every person should know from his or her childhood what is right and what is wrong.” ~ **Azizbek Kokanbaev**

“Cheating in the academic context is unethical because it keeps students from achieving the goal of education which is knowledge, the process of learning and studying.” ~ **Hani Jawhari**

“Cheating can also harm the society; Cheating promotes people to the levels such as presidency who, instead of running a country, will ruin that country.” ~**Omar Saleh**

“It is apparent still, that the question of morality and ethics in terms of cheating is still murky however it does seem that it is a wrong action to take, if for nothing else then due to personal harm.” ~ **Yousef Al Khatib**

“There are many things that can be done to try to reduce cheating. Firstly, number of supervisors should be increased. Also, before the exam or at the beginning of the semester the instructor should clearly explain and state the results of cheating and plagiarism. They should make it clear that there is no ease in the results and outcomes of cheating. Different versions of the exams or assignments should be made so it would be easier for the instructor to catch whomever is cheating.” ~ **Ali Al Saegh**

Trust

“If a person cheats and does well, without being caught, people will assume this person specializes in something in which he actually may know nothing about because he cheated.” ~ **Ibrahim Galadari**

“Knowledge is what you get once you have been taught and educated; it is a skill that is developed from hard work and dedication towards what you are learning.”~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“It is important to mention that as engineers and future professionals, just like doctors take an oath of servicing and helping people, we must take an oath of being ethical when it comes to doing our job, because it can be harmful to human kind, and this is not in the best interest of anyone, even though the monetary outcome can sometimes be great. Therefore, as students we must try to give our best efforts to learn the correct way and not taking shortcuts to get an assignment done in a short time, or to get a passing grade in a test. Especially, because by cheating we are always cheating our own beliefs. Therefore, doing something that is morally incorrect and unethical. ~**Ana Belen Jayaro Camargo**

“When you are to do an assignment or an exam, you are basically showing what you have learned, and that you are ready for the next step towards the occupation you are pursuing”. ~ **Ibrahim Galadari**

“Cheating in exams is unethical because it affects both the cheating students and society in a negative manner.” ~ **Hassaan Muhammad**

“A person cheating will not only harm themselves, but also many others in society by pursuing a profession in which they are not actually qualified to practice. In example, an engineer who cheats their way through university will not have the proper capabilities or understanding of the projects they will be working on professionally.” ~ **Ramz El Morr**

“From a young age, we are taught about ethics and morality, from that we have learned how cheating is unethical. This is because it is unfair for a person that has worked hard to get the same marks as a person that has cheated his or her way through. Also, cheating restricts a person from learning and acquiring the knowledge needed. For example, if a person cheats his or her way through university and then heads out to work, he or she will not be as effective in his or her job as he or she did not learn anything in the university. Thus, giving the university a bad reputation and decreasing the chances of other students that have worked hard to get jobs as many companies will lose trust in the students from that university.” ~ **Amina Hjiris**

Respect

“Whenever I think of the word “ethics”, I always think of respect.” ~ **Mahmoud Chehabeddine**

“Cheating is unethical because firstly you are being unethical towards your college friends and classmates. A lot of students spend a lot of time studying for exams and they are eager to get a good grade and basically by cheating you are being disrespectful towards them. Also while you are cheating you are being unethical towards your teachers, who spend a lot of time trying to teach you and at the end instead of trying to do your best in exam you are trying to lie to your teacher during the exam.” ~ **Hovhannes Khachatryan**

“Kant stated that we must treat people with respect and dignity. Cheating defies this in the sense that any intention to cheat or take credit for work that does not belong to you is completely immoral and unethical behavior in a social environment. Cheating is also disrespectful to your peers as professionals who input a greater amount of effort than yourself but are not being fairly rewarded for doing so. The same would apply for a teacher or instructor as cheating would be undermining their intelligence and showing a great lack of respect and therefore deemed unethical”. ~ **Omar Khorshed**

“We should consider the rights people have to their intellectual property.” ~ **Molham Homs**

“Cheating is taking advantage of another person’s qualities, or exploiting them to benefit your own self”. ~ **Mahmoud Chehabeddine**

Fairness

“Basically, it’s not fair that a student who does an assignment with a big effort be evaluated the same as a student who cheated.” ~ **Abdulla Al Qamish**

“Cheating is unethical because it is unjust and unfair for those who take the initiative of avoiding it. For example, a student studies all night for her exams and does exceptionally well, but is also joined on the Dean’s list by another student who scores ‘A’s by cheating in every exam.” ~ **Amatulla Rashed**

“As a student it's our duty to our teachers, university and fellow students not to cheat as it is unfair”. ~ **Mariem Kest**

“When one cheats, he or she has an advantage over other students, therefore the students are not treated equally as some have more information to use during the exam. Cheating is unethical because it produces inequality between cheaters and non-cheaters. Cheaters may sometimes get a higher grade than those who studied hard which is unfair and unethical”. ~ **Elie Al Chaer**

“Using someone else’s work without giving them credit for their effort is unfair and inconsiderate”. ~ **Leena Eltanbouli**

“Cheating in the academic field is unethical because it promotes social injustice”. ~ **Arwa Fares**

“Not only does cheating give someone an unfair advantage over other students, but it also ruins the experience of learning”. ~ **Mohammed El Yafawi**

“It is unfair to your Professor, it is unfair to your peers and it is unfair to yourself as you cheat yourself out of the opportunity of actually striving to learn and improve your knowledge of a subject.” ~ **John Cameron**

“Cheating is the act of breaking the rules and achieving your goals, as it gives you an unfair advantage against the competition. This is ethically wrong as a person who is cheating undermines the effort of others who have worked hard for the particular assignment or exam and also is not doing justice to the person themselves as by cheating they are bringing harm

to themselves by not gaining any knowledge and capability which would help them in the future and rather making themselves dependent on others, which will completely backfire.” ~ **Khawaja Balaaj Saeed**

“It is unfair to the person who took all their time and effort and sleepless nights to study or complete an assignment, while the other person just spent their time playing around and when the due date comes they just copy off the hard working person. It is also unfair to the person cheating, as they would spend the rest of their life cheating, never accomplishing or learning anything themselves, and fail in their daily life especially when they get a job.” ~ **Shatha El Sherbini**

“Cheating is unethical because you gain an unfair advantage over your classmates from something as little as a higher grade to a better job opportunities than those who have worked harder than you to achieve what they achieved”. ~ **Abdullah Al Chalya**

“By cheating, a person wouldn’t learn and achieve their goals in life. It is unethical, and not fair. For example, student X spends 4 hours studying for a test, and on the day of the test, student Y copies everything from student X’s paper. It is not fair because student X had to give up 4 hours to study, while student Y may have been sleeping or doing something more enjoyable.” ~ **Rawan Abdullah**

“It is not fair to the cheaters themselves since an exam is a test of knowledge or how much they understand and cheating ignores that and just contributes a high mark.” ~ **Sari Halabi**

Integrity

“The golden rule states that one must not do an act that they do not wish to have done upon them. A student should not cheat if they do not want to be cheated on. If they want their teachers to grade them justly, then they must do the same.” ~ **Shahab Honari**

“People are simply expected to make decisions for the right reasons, but in any state of mind taking credit for something you never worked for shouldn’t be morally or ethically correct”. ~ **Molham Homsy**

“A Cheater at School is a Cheater in Life. American philosopher, John Dewey, once said “education is not preparation for life; education is life itself””. ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“Cheating academically is very bad mainly because you are cheating others, the degree provided to any student is a badge of excellence in his/her field, and presenting that badge to others for future means of getting work is a lie if it is gained through way of even one cheat, I personally would not like to go to a doctor who has cheated on his final. As long as you cheat or have cheated even a handful of times, one will spend a life of cheating others just by presenting the degree for monetary gain, it will be insincere and is surely a slippery slope that the person will soon suffer.” ~ **Yazan Al Kawadri**

“To cheat on a university assignment is unethical due to the fact that the person performing this is being graded for work which he or she might not have done, while other students who actually had put more time and effort into the assignment being graded equally. By doing so, that student becomes accustomed to breaking certain rules and regulations that may lead to bigger offenses in the future.”~ **Faisal Alawazi**

“If everyone cheated while learning, nothing will be learnt and there will be no progress to be made in life”. ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“The real benefit of cheating isn’t getting a high grade because deep inside this means nothing for the cheater as there wasn’t effort put to earn this grade and the cheater hasn’t benefited any knowledge.” ~ **Logein Lasfar**

“There can be no good motive to cheating on an exam or an assignment; you cannot expect to receive a reward if you have never worked hard for it.” ~ **Ibrahim Galadari**

“Unethical actions may lead to success but ethical actions will lead to a longer lasting success.” ~ **Sami El Okaily**

“The whole purpose of exams or projects is to test an individual’s understanding of tasks and concepts taught in lectures. By awarding marks or grades to students on the basis of their work, students can determine how well they have grasped the subject.” ~ **Ankit Machchhi**

“If someone studies for an exam for a week and gets a good grade then that is something to be proud of.” ~ **Rami ElChafei**

“Every new discovery came from that one person who wanted to challenge what he or she learned and to want to know more, and I’m sure that person was never a cheater.” ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“The highest cost of cheating is the knowledge that is not learned. A student is paying money to educate him/herself, and by cheating, skips ahead of all the learning and understanding, which later comes back to haunt him/her out in the real world.” ~ **Logein Lasfar**

“Cheating is not physically harmful, but it is mentally harmful”. ~ **Hijazi Hijazi**

“Cheating is unethical because it undermines the real value of education. It negates the essential purpose of going to school or university, which is to learn. It can become sort of a pathetic ‘lifestyle’, where you don’t have to make any effort and wait for someone to do the hard work for you. This can negatively affect the student’s personality and make him so dependent. It also spreads like a disease among students making them lazy and careless. Because if students passed their courses through cheating, others might lose the incentive to study and work hard and therefore cheating will raise generations of ‘intellectual thieves’.” ~ **Omar Al Sakaf**

“It is unethical because ethics is about following regulations and morals. Cheating is prohibited in the university and, therefore, not following the rules leads this action to be unethical. Cheating might affect the society later on in the future for example if someone cheated in the university then this person after graduation could harm the society in order to achieve his or her goal.” ~ **Ahmed El Nakib**

“Students who cheat most of the time, are more likely to make unethical and unprofessional decision in the study field or university.” ~ **Shahriar Safapour**

“Abraham Lincoln once said “you cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today”. These students will one day become adults in the real world and that’s when they will take the hardest test where no one can cheat, and that is the test of life. Cheating is a negative domino effect, it must be controlled at an early stage or it will become a disease, until the disease wins over your and life hits you hard. I think the sad thing is not that people are cheating, but that people have slowly started to believe that cheating is okay. And I think that people realize that’s it’s not okay, once they have lived as a cheater, and that’s the sad truth.” ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“A student or any person for that matter, should always keep in mind Kant’s Golden Rule, where he says that a person should always act as if the world is watching them and as if at any moment everyone will do as that person is doing.” ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

Courage

“It is better to fail on the test and be honest about it that you were unprepared and you can motivate yourself to work harder for the next one.... we must not cheat, if we do or we see someone cheating we must be upfront, either be the whistle blower or talk to them into not doing so.” ~ **Amina Qadir**

“For example, if a student witnesses another student cheating from his own exam, it is the student’s duty to tell on the other student since cheating is considered a wrongful act. This theory is also applied to the student who is cheating. He must do the right thing by never cheating, even if it means failing the exam”. ~ **Zain Alshafei**

“It must be explained to students that cheating throughout your education shouldn’t be something you don’t do because you’re afraid of the consequences or of getting in trouble, but it is wrong because you are cheating your way to a degree that you might get, but not earn.” ~ **Zainab Al Hammadi**

“Therefore, not just the person who is cheating should be punished but also anybody who is helping them.” ~ **Hassaan Muhammad**

“Students need to find the courage within themselves to resist peer pressure to cheat, to play instead of study, or to otherwise take the easy way out. Faculty members have the duty to create awareness about, monitor and enforce academic integrity, an often difficult and onerous task. Most importantly, however, educators must promote academic integrity by setting the tone from the top and leading by example”. ~ **Jeanette Teh, Assistant Professor of Business Administration at AUD**