

SCHOOL OF IRISH LEARNING

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY FOR EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS POLICY

UCC's Academic Integrity for Examinations and Assessments Policy sets out UCC's definitions of academic integrity; signposts supports for staff and students; and outlines the procedures for the investigation of alleged cases of academic misconduct or plagiarism for examinations and assessments. This policy is available at:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/academicgov/policies/standards/academicintegrityforexaminationsandassessmentspolicy2025-2026/>

- Students are obliged to maintain academic integrity and adhere to the **Academic Integrity for Examinations and Assessments Policy**. They are responsible for familiarising themselves with the concepts and practices of academic integrity, together with the Student Charter and Code of Honour.
- Students are responsible for ensuring that all submitted work meets the University standards for academic integrity and for avoiding academic misconduct in all its forms including but not limited to the following: cheating, plagiarism, contract cheating, impersonation, and the unethical use of Generative AI (GenAI).
- Students are responsible for completing academic integrity training or any other skills development when requested to do so and within the specified timeframe.
- Students are responsible for checking their emails regularly. Students will be notified of any suspected academic misconduct or any matter dealt with under this Policy via their UCC email address.

Plagiarism:

When you submit an essay or written work to constituent Departments of the School, you are confirming that it is your own work and that you have written it yourself. If you reproduce extracts from the work of another person or persons without due acknowledgement, this is plagiarism. Equally, if you submit as your own work that of another student, or notes or slides provided by the lecturer, this is plagiarism. Generally, a mark of zero is awarded if there is evidence of such misconduct.

Students are encouraged to use short quotations from published works by other people in their work but these must be cited using an appropriate academic referencing system – the lecturer will give you guidance on this topic.

Use of Generative AI:

University policy (Section 5.3) allows for individual Schools to have additional academic requirements. Scoil Léann na Gaeilge/*The School of Irish Learning* and its constituent Departments (Béaloideas/*Folklore and Ethnology*; Nua-Ghaeilge/*Modern Irish*; and Sean-agus Meán-Ghaeilge/*Early and Medieval Irish*) do not permit the use of Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT, or any similar LLMs (Large Language Models) in any way, which includes but is not limited to using it as a tool for doing research or for the completion of an assignment. In addition, the use of GenAI and software tools such as Grammarly are not allowed for editing, proofing, or rewriting of an essay in preparation for final submission. Furthermore, students may not use translation tools such as Google Translate when writing essays and other tasks. Work produced, corrected, formatted or translated by such software programmes will not be awarded marks.

As Humanities students, a central part of your education is learning to read and write critically, to use language correctly and grammatically, to think independently and to learn how to research effectively. Using a tool such as ChatGPT to research and write assignments (instead of researching and writing it yourself), or utilising software such as Google Translate to translate assessments and essays into Irish prevents learning and development and, as such, constitutes a serious obstacle to the attainment of the aims of a degree in the Humanities. Such usages, therefore, are strictly forbidden and will be treated as cases of Major Academic Misconduct. Utilising Grammarly to assist in the writing of essays is also not allowed and will be treated as a case of Minor Academic Misconduct.

What happens if a student breaches Academic Integrity?

We have safeguards in place to protect the integrity of our assignments. Those submitted through Canvas are checked by Turnitin, which is an academic integrity service and plagiarism detector. Your assignments are marked by academics who are experts in their fields. When a member of staff has concerns about an assignment, they will consult with the Academic Integrity officers in the School. They will determine if the matter merits further consideration and if it is a case of:

- Level 1: Poor Academic Practice
- Level 2: Minor Academic Misconduct
- Level 3: Major Academic Misconduct.

The penalties involved may include:

- Students must complete Academic Integrity and Fundamentals Course
- Student may be placed on the Academic Misconduct Register
- Student receives a mark of zero for the assignment where misconduct is found.