

LESSON

«SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLES OF IMPLEMENTING THE PRINCIPLES OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY IN UKRAINE AND AROUND THE WORLD»

Yurflex team (Law clinic of the School of law of Ukrainian Catholic University)

LESSON GOAL:

To form students' understanding of the concept and principles of academic integrity. Use examples to convey the importance of maintaining academic integrity in various areas of life.

AUDIENCE/NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

students of grades 8-9 / 20 people.

DURATION:

45-50 minutes.

FORMAT:

classes (online or offline).

EQUIPMENT:

materials for an interactive game. Methodological materials: multimedia projector, handouts and presentation.

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LESSON PROGRESS.

PLAN

1. Presentation
2. What is integrity: academic integrity; examples of manifestations
3. The situation in Ukraine: Lisovyi
4. Threats in ignoring the problem
5. How it can be fixed?
6. Examples of foreign countries
7. Case analysis (Interactive)
8. Successful examples of preventing dishonesty in Ukrainian universities
9. Lesson completion: reflection + Q&A session

PRESENTATION FOR THE LESSON:

1. What is integrity: academic integrity + examples of manifestations

The Cambridge Dictionary interprets it as the quality of being honest and having firm moral principles that do not change under the influence of circumstances.

Academic integrity is a set of ethical principles and rules defined by law that should guide participants in the educational process during training, teaching and carrying out scientific (creative) activities in order to ensure trust to the results of training and/or scientific (creative) achievements.

Examples:

Plagiarism: Using other people's scientific or creative results without proper reference to authorship that includes both partial and full copying of texts of other authors.

Forgery: Inventing data or facts that are used in scientific researches or educational process.

Debiting: Performing written work involving external sources of information, which are not allowed for use during evaluation.

2. Minister of Education vs Integrity

Bren Simon's quote «There is nothing I respect less than lazy liars»

The minister of education and science Oksen Lisovyi in an interview with Suspilne said that he defended his candidate's work formally, and not because of the desire to engage in science. So, he decided to give up his academic degree when accusations of plagiarism appeared online after his appointment to the post of minister.

According to him, he wrote his PhD thesis «quite quickly, under the pressure of certain circumstances that were there at that time.» Lisovyi defended in 2010-2011 under the cadence of Dmytro Tabachnyk.

«I was the director of an extracurricular educational institution that received the status of a national one. I was then sent clear signals that the position I am in should at least be a candidate — I should defend the thesis. Many people have been in such situations,» Lisovyi said.

He added that he defended the work formally, and not because he wanted to do science. Therefore, when certain coincidences were found in his work (as well as in the work of the chairman of the committee on education Serhii Babak), they both decided to give up their academic degrees.

«Since we both did not follow the path of a scientific career, we had to cancel the culture of plagiarism. Moreover, the Ministry of Education has a large number of doctoral works that need to be considered for plagiarism. And I would not like to have any burden behind my back,» the minister said.

Lisovyi also called manipulation the thesis that the minister of education must necessarily have a scientific degree. He recalled Hanna Novosad, who headed the Ministry of education and science in 2019-2020 and did not have a scientific degree.

In addition, according to the minister, in his situation, the refusal of an academic degree does not affect the institute of science: «Statuses, as well as surcharges, should be acquired by those who are engaged in science,» he said.

3. Threats in ignoring the problem

Problems in ignoring the problem:

- EU;
- Lack of education of citizens - who will raise Ukraine? This is the responsibility of its citizens;
- Quarantine, war, which also greatly affected the level of education.

In conclusion – nothing good will happen, we need to correct the situation.

4. How it can be fixed?

– Real cases of other countries (abroad)

1. University of Freiburg (Germany)

The university has a system for monitoring compliance with academic integrity, which includes mechanisms for filing complaints about cases of dishonesty. They also provide access to resources that help students understand the importance of honesty in learning.

2. India

A serious fight against academic dishonesty is being conducted by the government of India, which has issued a number of regulations that allow up to 10% plagiarism in scientific work, otherwise serious penalties are introduced. These regulations were adopted in 2018 and now apply to 867 universities that are subject to the national education regulator, the University Grants Commission of India (UGC India), which oversees higher education in India [8].¹

Case analysis

Situations:

- 1) Cheating on a test paper;
- 2) Writing an essay on your own opinion using AI;
- 3) Use of ready-made homework;
- 4) Cajoling the teacher.

*Students analyze cases and we ask them to figure out how to prevent such situations.

They then select one person from the team to present a solution to their situation.

The presentation takes place in the format of a simulated meeting of the Ministry of education, where this student was invited to share their own opinion.

5. Successful examples of preventing dishonesty in Ukrainian universities

1. *Kiev School of Economics*

This institution of higher education has a code of integrity of students and trainees, which, by the way, is available for everyone to read, since it is freely available.

The code consists of sections on the principles of academic integrity, the oath of integrity, the relationship between students and listeners/ teachers, violation of the code of integrity, and penalties for violation of the Code of integrity.

The most interesting element is the oath of integrity:

Academic integrity is a fundamental value of *Kyiv School of Economics*. Each work performed by the student/trainee should be solely a reflection of the student/listener's own work or their contribution to joint efforts, if cooperation is allowed by the course/project manager. All KSE students/trainees are committed to adhering to the highest standards of academic integrity and virtue.

The official KSE student/trainee integrity oath has the following wording:

«In accordance with the Code of integrity, I solemnly swear that this work is entirely created by my own efforts, I will not use any unauthorized assistance in completing this task, and I am solely responsible for any violation of the academic integrity policy that may result in a score of '0' for this task, 'F' for the course, or my expulsion from School.»

At the beginning of each exam, all students/trainees are required to write a short version of the KSE integrity oath by hand on the exam paper and sign it: «I swear on my honor of a KSE student that I will neither provide, nor receive any unauthorized assistance in completing this task.»

2. American University Kyiv

AUK strictly adheres to the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is one of the cornerstones of this higher education institution on a par with other principles: student-centricity, freedom of choice, career orientation and a systematic approach.

This university also has a code of academic integrity. The Code is an integral part of the system of internal quality assurance of educational activities and the quality of higher education at American University Kyiv, and establishes general principles, standards and norms of compliance with academic integrity by all participants in the educational process at the University.

Also, both students and teachers sign a declaration on the observance of academic integrity by the applicant for higher education/employee of the limited liability company «Higher Educational Institution «American University Kyiv», in which they note that they are familiar with the Code of academic integrity.

3. Ostroh Academy

This university also has a Code of academic integrity, and in addition to it, there is also a poster about academic integrity, a presentation about it, which summarizes the principles and norms. This university also has Regulations on prevention of academic plagiarism and the procedure for checking works at the National University «Ostroh Academy».

Interestingly, in October of this year, Ostroh Academy held a week of academic integrity, during which various trainings and lectures on academic integrity and its components were held.



COMPLETING THE LESSON

SUMMING UP THE RESULTS

Reflection

Answers to students' questions

LESSON ANNEXES:

