

BAO Academic Integrity Policy

(effective August 2026)

Academic Integrity and Ethical Conduct

Students are expected to demonstrate academic integrity and professionalism at all times. Integrity is a core value in the practice of behavior analysis, particularly with respect to accurate data collection, analysis, reporting, and documentation. In alignment with course expectations, departmental policy, and UNT policy, all submitted work must represent the student's own independent thinking, writing, and effort unless explicitly permitted by the instructor or assignment instructions. Academic misconduct may occur regardless of intent. Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to all academic integrity expectations. These departmental policies supplement, but do not replace, the UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy.

Failure to meet these expectations may result in academic penalties and/or referral to the UNT Office of Academic Integrity for review in accordance with university procedures.

Responsibility

Students are responsible for reading and adhering to:

- This Academic Integrity Policy
- The Artificial Intelligence Policy ([link](#))
- Assignment instructions ([link](#))
- UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy ([link](#))
- Respondus Instructions and Policies, during quizzes and exams
- Students are responsible for seeking clarification before submitting work if they are unsure whether a resource, tool, collaboration, or form of assistance is permitted.

General Expectations for Independent Work

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor or assignment instructions:

- All work must be completed independently
- Do not give or receive unauthorized assistance
- Do not look at, copy, paraphrase from, or closely follow the work of another student, whether current or former
- Current and former students are responsible for protecting their work and course materials from unauthorized access.
- Do not share, distribute, post, upload, sell, or otherwise provide course materials, assignment prompts, quiz questions, exam questions, answers, grading materials, or other protected course content outside of permitted instructional or study contexts
- Do not misrepresent authorship, effort, sources, data, performance, or competence

Collaboration is permitted only for studying and must not involve producing, copying, sharing, or jointly completing work that is submitted for evaluation as individual work.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when submitted work includes content, ideas, wording, structure, organization, analysis, or source material that is not properly attributed and is presented as original work.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Using content from published or internet sources, including journal articles, websites, textbooks, manuals, or other external materials, without appropriate citation
- Using course materials or shared content, including social media posts, shared documents, group chats, online repositories, tutoring materials, or previously submitted assignments, without permission or appropriate citation
- Using work produced by others, including current or former students, individuals not enrolled in the course, tutors, coworkers, paid writers, commercially available papers, or other third parties
- Reusing one's own prior work, in whole or in part, without appropriate citation or permission when required
- Submitting AI-generated or AI-assisted content when such use is not permitted by the Artificial Intelligence Policy, assignment instructions, or instructor directions
- Misrepresenting data, sources, authorship, effort, or original contribution

Plagiarism may occur regardless of intent. Students are responsible for ensuring that all submitted work meets academic integrity expectations.

Avoiding Plagiarism

To avoid plagiarism:

- Write all work in your own words
- Fully paraphrase and cite all sources
- Clearly distinguish your ideas from ideas, examples, wording, or materials drawn from other sources
- Do not copy or closely mimic wording, structure, organization, or analysis from another source
- Do not use work from current or former students
- Do not collaborate on assignments unless explicitly permitted by the instructor or assignment instructions

Unauthorized Assistance

Unauthorized assistance includes using materials, tools, people, devices, or resources that are not permitted for a specific assignment, quiz or exam.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Using phones, tablets, second computers, smart watches, messaging tools, websites, notes, books, course materials, or external resources during quizzes or exams unless explicitly permitted
- Receiving help from another person while completing work that must be completed independently
- Sharing or receiving answers, questions, drafts, outlines, screenshots, notes, or completed work
- Accessing or attempting to access course content, quiz questions, exam questions, or answers in an unauthorized way
- Violating Respondus Instructions and Policies in a way that raises concerns about unauthorized resources, collaboration, identity verification, or independent performance

Unauthorized assistance that violates course instructions, assignment instructions, departmental policy, or university policy is a violation of academic integrity.

Artificial Intelligence

Use of artificial intelligence must comply with the Artificial Intelligence Policy and assignment instructions.

By default, the use of generative AI tools is prohibited unless:

- The use clearly meets one of the allowable-use definitions in the Artificial Intelligence Policy, or
- The instructor provides explicit written instructions authorizing AI use for a specific assignment

Use of AI outside the allowable-use definitions, assignment instructions, or instructor directions is a violation of academic integrity. Depending on the assignment and available evidence, such use may constitute misrepresentation of authorship, independent work, effort, or competence. For full definitions of acceptable and prohibited AI use, including proofreading, formatting, studying, disclosure requirements, and prohibited uses, students must refer to the Artificial Intelligence Policy.

Coursework and Course Materials

Course activities, assignments, quiz questions, exam questions, answer choices, rubrics, feedback, and other instructional materials are protected course materials.

Students may not:

- Screenshot, photograph, video record, transcribe, or otherwise reproduce questions (e.g., study guide, quiz, exam) answers, or other protected course content in any form, regardless of intended use, unless explicitly permitted
- Share course materials with current, former, or future students outside of permitted instructional or study contexts
- Use course materials in a way that gives another student unauthorized access to assessment content

Quizzes, Exams, and Respondus Instructions and Policies

All quizzes and exams must be completed independently unless the instructor explicitly states otherwise.

Students must follow all testing requirements outlined in course policies, including Respondus Instructions and Policies during Respondus activities

During quizzes and exams, students may not:

- Use unauthorized books, notes, websites, course materials, phones, tablets, smart watches, external monitors, messaging tools, or other resources. A phone or tablet may be used only when explicitly required as a second camera for testing purposes. When used as a second camera, the device must remain connected, stationary, and may not be used for communication, internet searching, note access, screenshots, recording, messaging, or any other purpose during the assessment.
- Communicate or collaborate with any person
- Photograph, screenshot, record, copy, or distribute content
- Access unauthorized materials during the assessment
- Disable required testing, video, audio, browser, or proctoring settings

Respondus flags, testing irregularities, or failure to follow Respondus Instructions and Policies will be reviewed under academic integrity procedures. Such flags or irregularities do not automatically establish academic misconduct; determinations are made based on the available evidence and applicable university procedures.

Failure to follow required testing conditions, including Respondus Monitor and any required second camera procedures, may be considered a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy depending on the nature of the concern and available evidence.

Turnitin and AI Detection Tools

Turnitin may be used to review written work for potential plagiarism. Similarity scores do not automatically indicate plagiarism or academic misconduct, but they may prompt instructor review. AI detection tools may be used as indicators only and are not sufficient evidence on their own.

Instructor Review Procedures

If academic misconduct is suspected:

- The instructor will notify the student in writing.
- The student will have an opportunity to respond.
- A meeting may be held to review the concern and available evidence.
- Evidence will be evaluated using the applicable standard.
- A determination will be made.
- Academic penalties may be assigned when appropriate.
- Required documentation will be submitted to the UNT Office of Academic Integrity.

All suspected academic integrity concerns will be reviewed in accordance with course, department, and university procedures. If a student does not respond within the required timeframe, the instructor may proceed based on the available evidence.

Appeals

Students may appeal a determination of academic misconduct or an assigned academic penalty using the university's official process.

Appeals must follow UNT timelines and procedures and are submitted to the department chair. The appeal must specify whether the student is appealing the finding of academic misconduct, the academic penalty, or both, and must include the basis for the appeal and any supporting information. The department chair may review the available evidence, request additional information, request a written statement from the instructor, and/or meet with relevant individuals as permitted by university procedures. The department chair will issue a determination through the official process.