What does Academic Integrity look like at Waterloo?

As a student, academic integrity means making ethical decisions, asking questions, and following instructions - even when faced with difficult situations. All members of the University of Waterloo are expected to follow the six core values of integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage (ICAI, n.d.).

Students demonstrate honesty by:
- following their instructor’s guidelines and expectations for assignments and tests
- submitting original work and completing individual assessments independently

Students demonstrate trust by:
- being dependable and reliable in their work, commitments and actions
- following their instructor’s directions and completing work by the set deadline

Students show respect by:
- consistently and accurately citing the work of others in their assignments
- keeping academic materials and instructor’s intellectual property private (e.g., class slides, assignments, tests, etc.), and not sharing these without the instructor’s permission

Students demonstrate fairness by:
- treating others equally without self-interest or prejudice
- following the University’s rules and not trying to gain unfair advantages in assignments, mid-terms or tests (e.g., copying someone else’s answers, using their phone to look up information during an exam etc.)

Students demonstrate responsibility by:
- completing their individual and group work to the best of their abilities and being accountable to themselves, their instructors, their classmates, and the University
- Seeking help If they are struggling or are not sure of expectations

Students demonstrate courage by:
- being brave and standing up for what is right, even in challenging situations. If they think someone has committed an academic offense or is violating a rule - they alert their instructor, Associate Dean, or a staff member

Moreover, academic integrity skills, like citing, paraphrasing or summarizing, take practice, and students should be given multiple opportunities to learn these skills. The Office of Academic Integrity has a number of resources for students: Group Work and Collaboration; Referencing and Research Skills; Intellectual Property and Copyright; Stress and Time Management; Academic Advice and Tutoring; and Academic Misconduct. Contact: academic.integrity@uwaterloo.ca

work. study. play. with integrity.