

Criterion 2 – Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct

Criterion 2 – Summary

The institution acts with integrity; its conduct is ethical and responsible.

Summary

MSU operates with integrity and establishes (and follows) fair and ethical policies for its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff. MSU, as a North Dakota University System (NDUS) institution, is directed by the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) policy, NDUS procedures, and MSU policies, procedures and practices. Both NDUS and MSU have many policies to ensure integrity at the institutional and system-wide level, such as Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest policies.

MSU follows financial policies and procedures set forth by the SBHE. While the SBHE provides general oversight, fiscal authority remains at the Institutional level. MSU's fiscal operations adhere to federal, state, and University policies, and they ensure resources are used ethically, fairly, and support MSU's mission.

While most concerns and issues are resolved at the departmental and/or divisional level, formal complaints and grievances also follow NDUS and MSU Policy to ensure employees a proper, full investigation, which is conducted in a fair and timely manner. Students who are considering a grievance are provided information outlining the process and the appropriate policy.

Core Component 2.A

The institution operates with integrity in its financial, academic, personnel, and auxiliary functions; it establishes and follows policies and processes for fair and ethical behavior on the part of its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff.

Argument

MSU operates with integrity in its financial, academic, personnel, and auxiliary functions; it establishes and follows fair and ethical policies for its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff.

MSU, as a North Dakota University System (NDUS) institution, is directed by the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) policies, NDUS procedures, and MSU policies, procedures and practices. Specifically, fair and ethical policies and processes applicable to its governing board, administration, faculty and staff are transparent and are found on SBHE, NDUS and MSU websites. For example [SBHE Policy 308.1 Officer and Employee Conduct](#) refers to the expected standards of fair and ethical conduct. It delineates MSU's responsibility with regard to general conduct, conflicts of interest, outside activities and employment, relationships with clients and suppliers, as well as system and institutional funds. It also describes the expected ethical behaviors with regard to its governing board, NDUS officers and employees, as well as the institution's administration, faculty, and staff.

[MSU Policy 308.1 Employee Code of Conduct](#) supports an environment of institutional integrity. MSU ensures and protects its ethical integrity policy and code of conduct awareness through [annual mandatory review of these policies](#) and procedures. Concurrently, an [annual notification of policies](#) is also emailed to students each semester. Ethical use of scholarly academic resources is communicated to all stakeholders through signage located by copiers and in the library, and to all students through [Moodle course shell](#). Academic honesty is also located in all course [syllabi](#) on MSU's Learning Management System (LMS) Moodle, along with other [important student information](#), as mandated by the MSU syllabus template for all classes.

The SBHE, the policy making body for all NDUS institutions, [meets regularly](#) to provide financial and strategic oversight and direction for all campuses including MSU. SBHE policies and procedures for Financial Affairs, Governance, and Organization are located on the SBHE website. In promoting the best interests of the NDUS and MSU, all employees and consultants agree to abide by all SBHE and MSU policies, such as [SBHE 611.4](#) and [MSU M611.4](#) Conflict of Interest Policies when yearly contracts or contracts for services are signed. These policies state that SBHE members and MSU employees are required to disclose any real or potential conflicts of interest.

The [NDUS](#) and [MSU](#) are committed to upholding integrity, ethical, and professional standards and the protection of assets and resources from fraud and/or theft through a [24 hour fraud hotline](#). MSU, as a public institution of the NDUS, follows financial policies and procedures set forth by the SBHE, including [SBHE Policies Financial Affairs Section 800](#). While the SBHE provides general oversight, fiscal authority remains at the Institutional level. MSU's fiscal operations adhere to federal, state, and University policies, procedures, and best practices and they ensure resources are used ethically, fairly, and supporting of MSU's mission. This happens when NDUS and MSU financial statements are audited. Auditors ensure compliance, working with an expert knowledge of general accounting practices for Institutions of Higher Education. [Audit](#) and other financial reports are provided to MSU's federal grantors and to the public as a commitment to transparency and financial stewardship of public funds.

MSU is committed to responding fairly and in a timely manner to employee formal grievances and complaints pursuant of institutional policy. [MSU](#) is an [Equal Employment Opportunity](#) employer and follows institutional procedures to ensure each employee is provided the highest level of customer service and support, with the main emphasis on developing a climate of support, trust, and integrity across the institution. While most concerns and issues are resolved at the departmental and/or divisional level, formal complaints and grievances also follow NDUS and MSU Policy to insure employees a proper, full investigation, which is conducted in a fair and timely manner. When a complaint or grievance is not resolved to one's satisfaction [Grievance Policies](#) are in place to ensure that a student, faculty, staff, and community member's rights are fairly and consistently considered. MSU has had no formal faculty grievances in the past five years, and no formal staff grievances in the past three years. MSU has few student [grievances](#) but they are brought to the [MSU Academic Standards Committee](#). Generally, if a grievance is filed it is regarding [grade appeals](#). All students are guaranteed a fair and impartial hearing in the proceedings of the University conduct system. Students who are considering a grievance, such as a grade appeal, will [receive information outlining the process and are provided the appropriate policy](#). The [Distance Complaint](#) process provides online and distance students MSU and NDUS grievance processes, as well as a complete list of agencies to resolve consumer complaints.

In staying consistent with NDUS policies, MSU has established many ethical safeguards designed to eliminate risk for all campus stakeholders. These policies include [student](#) and [employee](#) criminal records checks, [Anti-Harassment/Hostile Work Environment, Campus Crime and Security Act Provisions, Sexual Misconduct and Title IX Compliance](#), and [Drug Free Schools and Community Policy](#). To make campus safer for students, employees, and the community, the institution participates in ongoing emergency drills. September 25, 2012, MSU participated in an [Emergency Bomb threat test](#) and on May 5, 2014, a [Shooter Lock-Down Drill](#). Both occurred in partnership with the Traill County Sheriff's Department, which included formal debriefing indicating areas for improved safety. The Traill County Sheriff's Department is the local police department for the city of Mayville and MSU. Several MSU employees attended professional development [February 3-4, 2014](#), regarding Title IX Federal Legislative and Regulation changes impacting how MSU will address and document formal and informal complaints and reports. They have now formed a team and had more extensive Title IX training in February, 2016, in Bismarck. MSU participates and pays for Risk Management through the NDUS and also participated in [Mental Health First Aid training](#), addressing safeguards for all stakeholders across the institution.

MSU auxiliaries (MSU Food Services, MSU Bookstore, and MSU Child Development Programs, etc.) are held to the same standards, policies and practices as other units in conducting their activities and functions. Auxiliary units are required to follow all NDUS and MSU policies and procedures. Some auxiliary units are held to standards that exceed the institution's. For example, the MSU Child Development Program is required to meet the [NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct and Standards of Conduct](#), which lays out conduct specific to the unit's mission.

Core Component 2.B

The institution presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public with regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships.

Argument

MSU presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public, with regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships. MSU makes every effort to provide open access to clear and accurate information for students, faculty, staff and the public. MSU's website, [catalog](#), [student](#), [residence hall](#), and [faculty](#) handbooks, and the [University Policy Manual](#) are the primary sources of information regarding programs of study and their requirements, online and distance delivery options, student costs, faculty and staff, control, and accreditation relationships. In order to inform MSU's many stakeholders, additional information is provided through [MSU Today](#), our Alumni magazine, marketing materials, the [President's weekly column](#) appearing in the Traill County Tribune and posted on the MSU website, and various annual and other reports provided to specific constituents such as the [Completion Report](#).

Institutional research and characteristics specific to MSU are provided on the MSU public website under MSU [Consumer Information](#) and [Facts & Figures](#). These documents provide open access to current and accurate information regarding MSU to current students, employees, and the community. Examples include: policy manuals and handbooks, financial assistance information, general institutional information, completion and graduation reports, consumer protection information, campus security, fire safety and missing student policies and procedures, sexual misconduct and Title IX compliance, Equity in Athletics, MSU organizational charts, ongoing assessment, student progress and completion rates, annual student enrollment, accreditation status, faculty and staff directory, FERPA, information regarding auxiliaries, and other pertinent information.

MSU's [Institutional Accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission](#) (HLC) and program specific accreditation including [National Council on Accreditation Teacher Education \(NCATE\)](#), now known as Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), is publicly available on the [MSU website](#) and in its academic catalog. As required by NCATE, an onsite focused visit occurred in April, 2015. The affirming report for this visit was received in November, 2015. MSU is currently seeking Accreditation for its Bachelors of Nursing (BSN) program through [CCNE: The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education](#).

The [2015- 2016 Academic Catalog](#), located on the MSU website, is the most current primary source for information on [academic programs](#), [degrees and majors](#) offered, and their requirements. The catalog provides academic policies and procedures for [MSU admission](#), [course descriptions](#), offerings, and delivery methods. [Academic Divisions](#) and departments [annually review](#) the Academic Catalog to ensure its currency and accuracy.

The Office of Academic Records is responsible for FERPA compliance and the maintenance of student records, including access to transcripts, grades, and academic standing. Academic record policies and procedures are available to all students through the MSU website and in the academic catalog. MSU students are informed of FERPA in several ways, including during the admission process, student orientation, the [academic catalog](#), course syllabi, and related [Important Student Information](#), located in each course learning management system (LMS) Moodle Shell. MSU is committed to FERPA compliance, as it follows a [records policy](#) along with the official [NDUS Records Retention Schedule](#) and has implemented student record imaging through NDUS-supported content imaging.

MSU stakeholders and students have additional resources available to them including the [MSU Student Handbook](#), [MSU Distance Student Handbook](#), and the [MSU Residence Hall Student Handbook](#). These resources are available to anyone online and in print, and include information regarding: student conduct, rights and responsibilities; academic standing, probation, suspension and dismissal; consumer protection information

including Student Right to Know; Security and Safety; FERPA; integrity of online/distance education; campus security including crime reports and statistics; and other information.

MSU provides an annual student cost breakdown both on the MSU [website](#) and in the [Academic Catalog](#) that include tuition, fees, books and incidentals, room and board, financial aid policies and procedures, and payment and refund policies and procedures. All inquirers have access to an online [cost calculator](#) on the MSU website designed to assist them in determining types of federal, state, and institutional aid eligibility. Current students receive individual cost breakdowns detailing tuition, fees, bookstore charges, room and board, and applied financial aid, including scholarships, grants and loans.

The MSU [annual budget](#) is transparent to all stakeholders and available in the Library. The budget contains all institutional funding through all sources including the general fund, tuition and other local funds. The budget provides an overall summary and detailing expenses by category and revenues by source with details by department and division. [Monthly updates](#) are provided by the business office controller to all departments and divisions.

General information regarding MSU Faculty and Staff is available on MSU's [website](#). MSU administrative and faculty credentials are available in the [academic catalog](#). A more extensive description of credentials is available through academic divisions and the Academic Affairs Office. General staff information is available on the MSU website and through Human Resources and the MSU Business Office.

MSU is a public institution operating under the direction and control of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. Its day-to-day operations are under the direction and authority of the President; the President works through shared decision-making with the President's Cabinet, consisting of the Vice Presidents of Academic, Student and Business Affairs, and the Athletic and Foundation Directors. In partnership, the institution's Faculty, Staff and Student Associations, and Senates provide added input and support to institutional actions and results. On [October, 14, 2014](#) the MSU Strategic Planning Committee met to update the current plan. MSU faculty, staff, students, and administration work together on the Institutional Strategic Plan. In the fall of 2015, the MSU Strategic Planning Committee began to formulate a new strategic plan. Weekly [President's Cabinet](#) meeting minutes and [Faculty Association](#) meeting minutes documenting participatory decision making are posted on the [MSU internal website](#).

Core Component 2.C

The governing board of the institution is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of the institution and to assure its integrity.

1. The governing board's deliberations reflect priorities to preserve and enhance the institution.
2. The governing board reviews and considers the reasonable and relevant interests of the institution's internal and external constituencies during its decision-making deliberations.
3. The governing board preserves its independence from undue influence on the part of donors, elected officials, ownership interests or other external parties when such influence would not be in the best interest of the institution.
4. The governing board delegates day-to-day management of the institution to the administration and expects the faculty to oversee academic matters.

Argument

The State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of MSU and to assure its integrity. The SBHE is the policy-setting and advocacy body for the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and the governing body for North Dakota's 11 publicly supported colleges and universities. The SBHE was established by an initiated measure approved by the voters of North Dakota in 1938, which added Article 54 ([now Article VIII, Section 6](#)) to the State Constitution, as well as law [d15-10-01.3](#), which states: MSU is one of eleven institutions of higher education under the control of the state board of higher education which are a unified system of higher education, as established by the board, and are designated as the North Dakota University System (NDUS). The SBHE was approved again in [November of 2014](#) by North Dakota voters to be the independent board of choice. The SBHE in December, 2014 established a [Task Force](#) intended to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the SBHE in regard to operations and oversight of the NDUS.

The SBHE is made up of [seven citizen members](#) appointed to four-year terms by the governor and one student appointed by the governor to serve a one-year term. The Council of College Faculties selects the board's non-voting faculty advisor and the NDUS Staff Senate selects the board's non-voting staff advisor. The SBHE has the [authority and responsibility](#) of all institutions of higher education and has established set policies and procedures for operations. Members participate in ongoing [orientation](#) to include By-Laws, member responsibilities including Code of Conduct & Conflict of Interest, and institutional specific information including mission, vision, and statistical data such as approved programs of study, enrollment and retention rates, and annual budgets.

The SBHE deliberations reflect priorities to preserve and enhance MSU. The SBHE, through its authority and responsibilities, honors the mission and integrity of each institution and its people. It shapes, supports, and achieves complementary institution missions. It shields institutions from direct political and other outside interference. The SBHE actions and deliberations guide MSU in two ways. In general, it connects MSU's directions with all NDUS institutions. It supports the specifics of MSU's mission and vision. The SBHE regularly seeks input from MSU and the other NDUS institutions on system-wide initiatives such as the [Pathways to Students Success Plan](#) at the [January 2014, SBHE Meeting](#). These Minutes reflect the SBHE's review and approval of [MSU specific academic programs \(page 7\)](#) and services, and institutional assets and [capital improvements \(page 8\)](#). They demonstrate that the SBHE's approval of changes in [tuition and fees \(page 2\)](#) directly enhance and preserve MSU.

The SBHE reviews and considers the reasonable and relevant interests of MSU's internal and external constituencies during its decision-making deliberations. The SBHE/NDUS includes MSU in its [council structure](#). In this structure, all members, including MSU, participate and make recommendations. A most recent example is the [Master's in Teaching Stage II Proposal](#) approved at [Academic Affairs Council March, 2015 \(page 2\)](#). The committee structure makes students the first priority. The NDUS is its second; and each institution, including MSU follows. This is most visible in the [NDUS Strategic planning process](#). This text is based on the input of stakeholders like internal and external constituencies across the State, students, faculty, staff, business and community leaders, legislators, foundation directors, past chancellors, and board members. These voices offered guidance to the SBHE as they formulated their new strategic plan. Additionally, the SBHE honored MSU's interest in [May 2013 \(page 19\)](#) when MSU was granted program approval for the [B.S.ED in Special Education](#). The SBHE also supported MSU's request for capital improvement approval on [March 26, 2015 \(page 5\)](#) for the [Lewey Lee Fieldhouse Renovation](#). It responded to [MSU's annual budget approval \(page 3\)](#), as well as [faculty tenure promotions, salary and, benefit increases](#).

The SBHE preserves its independence from undue influence on the part of donors, elected officials, ownership interests, or other external parties when such influence would not be in the best interest of MSU. The citizens of North Dakota created the SBHE through the state constitution to ensure the institutions and their employees were protected from political interference. The SBHE provides the leadership and governing environment necessary to maximize the opportunities for MSU to be successful in fulfilling its mission. Examples of political interference protection are [NDUS](#) and [MSU](#) audits, and the [Office and Employee Code of Conduct](#). The SBHE created a policy to clarify that [Foundation Offices](#) are independent from Institutions.

The SBHE delegates day-to-day management of MSU to the administration and expects the faculty to oversee academic matters. The [State Constitution: Article IIIIV](#) provides the SBHE with broad powers and specifies the SBHE retain any powers it does not specifically delegate to the institutions. The SBHE review of institutional and program quality, ensures MSU provides positive educational experiences and seeks to improve continually. The SBHE's responsibility is to support, provide oversight, and hold MSU [accountable](#) for its results such as enrollment, retention and graduation rates. The SBHE delegates responsibility for the overall welfare and operations of the university to the President. The MSU Faculty Association has a [Constitution](#) that defines the academic governance responsibilities of the faculty. The [MSU Staff Association](#) and [Student Association](#) represent the activities, views, and interests of the constituencies in accordance with their constitution and bylaws. Examples of these entities in partnership include Higher Learning Commission Accreditation self-study and preparation, Institutional Strategic Planning, and other [institutional committees](#).

Core Component 2.D.

The institution is committed to freedom of expression and the pursuit of truth in teaching and learning.

Argument

MSU is committed to freedom of expression and the pursuit of truth in teaching and learning. MSU follows the [SBHE Academic Freedom policies](#) and the [MSU Mission Statement and College Learning Environment policy](#) for its faculty, students, guest speakers, and [institutional programs and services](#). MSU values and supports full academic freedom for its faculty in their research and the publication of said results. MSU supports academic freedom with regard to faculty lectures and demonstrations related to their subject and/or field of competence.

Faculty scholarship is [promoted](#) and supported through the MSU mission and vision, [faculty promotion and tenure policies](#), the newly developed grants office, and [professional development](#) and [sabbatical](#) opportunities. Faculty and staff educational opportunities are available through the [SBHE](#) and [MSU](#) tuition waiver policies to promote personal and professional growth. MSU faculty are encouraged and financially supported in their [academic research and writings](#). Faculty choose their own textbooks and develop their own courses and syllabi. Faculty are encouraged to select [open textbooks](#), which are licensed under an open copyright license made available online and free for use in classrooms and other course materials. A [syllabus template](#) is used by the university to provide consistency to the student and to assure all important information is provided to students.

MSU students receive fair and equal treatment. They have equal access to the programs, facilities, and activities of the University in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the United States, the Constitution of North Dakota, and the policies of the State Board of Higher Education. [MSU's Academic Catalog](#) states: "students are entitled to competent academic instruction and fair treatment in academic evaluation. In matters of campus discipline, students are entitled to prompt and fair procedural due process".

MSU is committed to its [Student Code of Conduct \(page 31\)](#) that states "an important purpose of higher education is to develop mature and responsible adult citizens and community leaders. Likewise, the University expects that, on or off campus, students will conduct themselves with courtesy, truthfulness, respect for law, and a thoughtful concern for the rights of others".

The MSU Orbit student newspaper and Comet Radio also serve the University community as venues for free expression. These vehicles are currently being redesigned with the assistance of faculty. [Student publications and media](#) are intended to act as vehicles for free inquiry and free expressions in the academic community, bring student concerns to the attention of faculty and staff, and aid in free and responsible discussion of intellectual exploration. Students are encouraged to freely express themselves by participating in Student Government, or more than the twenty-five [student organizations](#) across campus. Students can create their own student organization, as long as they follow the appropriate [student organization guidelines](#) and do not violate the Student

Code of Conduct or discriminate in terms of gender, age or race. A recent example is the [Afrikan History Club \(page 2\)](#), created by a student who felt African Americans needed more voice.

Core Component 2.E

The institution's policies and procedures call for responsible acquisition, discovery and application of knowledge by its faculty, students and staff.

1. The institution provides effective oversight and support services to ensure the integrity of research and scholarly practice conducted by its faculty, staff, and students.
2. Students are offered guidance in the ethical use of information resources.
3. The institution has and enforces policies on academic honesty and integrity.

Argument

MSU encourages and financially supports faculty, students, and staff to acquire, discover and apply knowledge responsibly. MSU expects and supports faculty and staff to be lifelong learners and to continue their own [professional development through active participation](#) in scholarly activities and research. For example, a 2008-2012 [Title III Strengthening Institutions](#) grant activity enabled MSU to develop and support a [plan](#) for faculty and staff professional development. It enabled MSU to reinstate funding for faculty professional development activities. Faculty and staff have financial resources available through the [Office for Academic Affairs, Human Resources](#), and [grant awards](#) and a mechanism to request these [professional development funds](#) to attend scholarly activities.

MSU encourages faculty, students, and staff in the discovery and application of knowledge. MSU provides effective oversight and support services to ensure the integrity of research and scholarly practice conducted by its faculty, staff, and students. MSU continues to support the development of research endeavors by faculty, staff, and students through the financial investment of reinstating the Grants Office. The [MSU Grants Office](#) serves faculty and staff in their efforts to secure external support for their instructional, research, public service, and scholarly activities. This office is responsible for the [integrity of research and other grant activity](#) across campus. It is currently developing and strengthening policies and procedures which aid both the academic and fiscal integrity of faculty, staff, and student research activities such as the incentive policy that supports faculty research and scholarly activity through financial incentives. MSU's [incentive policy](#) supports faculty and staff in the discovery and application of external programs and research. The Grants Office development of policies and procedures has enhanced the institution's capabilities to generate external funding. MSU faculty and staff, through the support of the Grants Office, submitted 10 new [proposals](#) for external funding in 2014. Policies and procedures for research and scholarly-related activity are being developed for all faculty and staff in the [MSU Policy Manual](#) including those for the responsible conduct of research, effort reporting, and lab safety. MSU is also actively pursuing independent Internal Review Board (IRB) status allowing MSU to support additional and independent research capabilities with human subjects.

MSU supports student researchers working in partnership with faculty. Student researchers complete orientation on education and safety protocols (which is currently being [revised](#)), required by funding agencies necessary for fiscal and ethical integrity of research activity and findings from their supervising faculty. MSU currently has three separate INBRE Grant funded projects supporting eight student researchers. Under the direction of INBRE project investigators (faculty) and student researchers assist with [research \(page 7\)](#) and [present their findings](#) in state, regional, and international research conferences.

MSU also encourages the creativity of its faculty and staff. It acknowledges the complexity related to ownership, control, and use of creative property. MSU has developed an [online course ownership policy](#) and faculty and staff are eligible for an [online course development stipend](#) for the development of online courses. MSU's policy

considers all coursework developed for online courses that do not generate royalties as Mediated Courseware. Thus, the ownership of the developed material falls under the constraints outlined SBHE Policy [611.2 section 5](#).

Students at MSU are offered guidance in the ethical use of information and [technology information resources](#). MSU students, faculty, and staff are provided information and guidance regarding scholastic honesty. They are informed as to what constitutes forms of dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism and are instructed about academic integrity. Students have access to an [LMS \(Moodle\) course shell](#) where [important student information](#) and a plagiarism video provide guidance on academic integrity, honesty, and plagiarism. Ethical use of information including proper citation, paraphrasing, and the consequences for violation is also provided.

The MSU library posts [copyright notices](#) by all copy machines and throughout the library. The [MSU Writing Center](#) educates all students on strategies for ethical and responsible citation. It helps them to learn how to avoid plagiarism, and to observe copyright law. These strategies appear in the Writing Center [brochures](#). The MSU Writing Center staff educate students in the required freshman courses [UNIV 100 Seminar on Success](#) and [CIS 175 Information Literacy](#) and help students to understand academic honesty, ethical use of information, integrity, and academic freedom.

For many years, every student on campus was issued a convertible tablet PC. MSU is currently transitioning to a "[bring your own device](#)" institution. This will retain the benefits of a technology-focused university while promoting student flexibility and affordability in their computer selection. Student devices must meet the [minimum technology requirements](#).

MSU has, and enforces, academic honesty and integrity. Policies and procedures for violations are found in the printed and on-line formats of the [MSU Student Handbook \(page 31\)](#) and the [MSU Teacher Education Handbook \(page 104\)](#). Students who have concerns about classroom related matters, issues related to an instructor, teaching materials, methodology, classroom environment, physical facilities, and academic honesty can follow procedures outlined in these handbooks. Student academic [grade appeal and grievance procedures](#) are located in these resources. Enforcement of these policies occurs on various levels but are initially the responsibility of the faculty.

MSU's required student [UNIV 100 Seminar on Success](#) course and [CIS 175 Information Literacy](#) include classroom discussion on plagiarism, copyright, academic preparation and honesty, coping with changes in higher education including academic freedom, and ethics including discrimination and equal opportunity. Students are informed of the enforcement of said policies and consequences of their actions.

MSU is currently using [Turnitin](#) plagiarism checker software as a method of assisting students to understand correct usage of other's intellectual property and for faculty to document plagiarized work. MSU uses [Tegrity Proctoring](#), [Respondus Lockdown Browser](#), and [approved and verified](#) proctors to ensure academic honesty across delivery methods and academic divisions.