



Reasoning with Ethics

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A Project of The School for Ethical Education | www.ethicsed.org

Ethics in action creates character.

Use this blog to:

1. Lead class discussions in social studies, civics, ethics or advisory classes.
2. Teach students skills to analyze cases with core ethical values.
3. Recognize skills in support of SEE's Tri-Factor Model of ethical functioning.

[Visit the online Ethics Blog.](#)



Academic Cheating

No one questions the increased possibility of cheating during virtual learning and online exams. Whether students cheat more online than in the classroom is debated, but a majority of teachers recognize the increased potential for cheating online.

Vendors have created “proctor” software for online exams, which some students object to on privacy concerns, while the software confirms student identity and monitors a variety of behaviors with the goal to prevent cheating.

Beyond software, educators recognize that assessment measures can also be modified to resist cheating. While more time consuming for teachers, reducing the use of multiple-choice exams and increasing the requirement for projects or papers that integrate personal comparisons and analysis are classic strategies to resist cheating.

SEE encourages one additional strategy, which could apply to in-class or online learning. Students are suggested to make a personal commitment to integrity. This will encourage reflection on the importance and benefits of integrity in school and society and provide an opportunity to write a personal integrity pledge. Students are asked to consider if they believe integrity pledges could help reduce cheating in school.

If students believe pledges might be helpful, they are asked to respond and draft their own integrity pledge. Examples can be found in the first link below. What statements and core values would students include in their pledge? In addition, students are requested to describe the level of commitment they would be willing to make to this pledge.

Supplemental Links

SEE Integrity Pledge Worksheet--

https://www.ethicsed.org/uploads/8/9/6/8/89681855/pledge_example_worksheet_from_awi_2019.pdf

ICAI- Seeking student buy in to integrity (8/25/20) From- <https://www.academicintegrity.org/blog/spotlight-building-student-buy-in/>

Inside Higher Ed -Strategies to reduce cheating (4/29/20)-

<https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2020/04/29/how-discourage-student-cheating-online-exams-opinion>

PBS story about online proctor services to resist cheating (12/21/12) (4:05)-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJCvZVrjHnE>

US News- Research unclear regarding online cheating and cites proctor software to resist. (6/21/20)- From: <https://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/articles/2014/06/17/think-twice-before-cheating-in-online-courses#:~:text=But%20research%20suggests%20that%20online,than%20their%20on%20campus%20peers.&text=But%20thanks%20to%20tools%20that,than%20in%20a%20traditional%20classroom.>

The Best Schools, staff writer addresses, Is Cheating Easier in Online College (3/23/20) --

<https://thebestschools.org/magazine/cheating-online-college/>



What strategies might reduce cheating during online instruction and testing?

Forbes, Cheating more common online—(10/30/19) -

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/dereknewton/2019/10/30/teachers-say-cheating-is-more-common-in-online-classes/#28075a014491>

Vox, Paranoia about cheating is making online ed terrible for everyone.—(5/4/2020) -

<https://www.vox.com/recode/2020/5/4/21241062/schools-cheating-proctorio-artificial-intelligence>