Attributes of Honor Codes

Traditional Honor Code	Modified Honor Code
• Students are in charge of the adjudication process.	• Students are ***predominantly*** in charge of the adjudication process.
• Students have an obligation to report any violations they witness; failure to do so is a violation of the Code.	• Students have an obligation to report any violations they witness; failure to do so is ***not*** a violation of the Code.
• Students sign a written pledge dedicating themselves to academic honesty. Students may also be required to sign this pledge on all submitted work.	• Students may be required to sign a pledge of academic honesty on all submitted work.
• Exams are unproctored.	• Exams are ***typically*** proctored.
• Punishments are strict, and often include suspension or expulsion.	• Punishments are varied, and the first offense rarely merits suspension or expulsion.

Sample Modified Honor Codes

- Knox College: http://www.academicintegrity.org/codes_and_policies/KnoxHonorSystem10-11.pdf
- University of Maryland: http://www.shc.umd.edu/SHC/HonorPledgeInformation.aspx
- University of Miami: http://www6.miami.edu/dean-students/pdf/undergrad_honorcode.pdf

Sample Traditional Honor Codes

- Gettysburg College: http://www.gettysburg.edu/dotAsset/2771398.pdf
- Loyola University Maryland: http://www.loyola.edu/campuslife/honorcode/documents/honor_code_booklet.pdf
- University of Virginia: http://www.virginia.edu/honor/about.html

Why do honor codes work?

- Honor codes simplify the integrity violation process by placing responsibility for compliance on both students and faculty.
- Honor codes recognize academic integrity as a vital part of campus culture.
- Honor codes allow administrators to address cheating equally with all students, not by focusing on individual populations that historically have exhibited more cheating (i.e. athletes, Greeks, etc.).
  At honor code schools, students are likely to embrace the responsibilities given to them and eager to avoid losing their privileges (i.e. unproctored exams).

---

[1] Dane, F.C., & Granzow, S. *Promoting Academic Integrity: A Review of Research on University Honor Codes.* Saginaw State University.

[2] Butterfield, K.D., McCabe, D.L., & Trevino, L.K. (1999). *Academic Integrity in Honor Code and Non-Honor Code Environments: a Qualitative Investigation.* Journal of Higher Education.

[3] International Center for Academic Integrity. (2010). *Member Institution Honor Codes, Modified Honor Codes, and Academic Integrity Policies*. Retrieved from International Center for Academic Integrity: http://www.academicintegrity.org/codes_and_policies/index.php

[4] Wax, H. (2010, September 17). *What Makes an Honor Code Work?* Retrieved from Big Questions Online: http://www.bigquestionsonline.com/blogs/heather-wax/what-makes-an-honor-code-work

[5] Dodd, T.M. *Honor Code 101: An Introduction to the Elements of Traditional Honor Codes, Modified Honor Codes and Academic Integrity Policies.* International Center for Academic Integrity.