

Cheating, Plagiarism and Collusion

Cheating

The University defines cheating as 'Any attempt by a student to gain unfair advantage over another student in the completion of assessment or to assist somebody else to gain unfair advantage'.

Examples of cheating in exams include:

- taking notes into an 'unseen' exam
- copying another student's work
- letting another student copy your work
- getting someone else to sit an exam for you.

Plagiarism

When using books and journal articles in the preparation of essays and dissertations, you must acknowledge the author and make sure that you use quotation marks if you are using the exact words of another person. This is known as referencing. You may find the accepted ways of quoting and referencing work in the UK are different from those you are used to. You will be advised about the referencing requirements for your course by your course tutors. A useful general guide to referencing can be found at the library website.

Failure to reference means that you are plagiarising another person's work, presenting it as your own.

Penalties for plagiarism, especially in assessed work and examinations, can be very severe and may include failing the course. To avoid this, see **UNPAC**, the University of [Northampton Plagiarism Avoidance Course](#).

Collusion

When you are producing a piece of coursework, check to make sure whether it should be completed individually or if it is okay to work with others. If you work with others on an assignment that should be completed on your own, this is also a form of cheating.

Sweeney, R. (2011). *International Student Handbook*. The University of Northampton