

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 14, Fall 2017
January 29, 2018

Members Present:

Reece Rosenthal (presiding), Sofia Yi (clerk), Hector Chaires, Ricky Robinson, James Suffoletta, Eva Lin

Ombuds: Sam Morimoto

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of using her cell phone during the final exam for an upper level BUSI course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student A's final exam
- Student A's note sheet
- Student A's submitted screenshots
- Pre-exam Canvas announcement
- Room assignments announcement for final exam
- Additional statement by Student A
- Course syllabus

Plea:

Student A pled "not in violation."

Testimony:

Student A stated that she did not show many calculations on her exam due to the fact that she frequently selected a partial credit option on the multiple-choice questions rather than solving the problems to completion. She also noted that she did her work on her calculator and did not write it down on the exam itself. The student noticed that the calculator she brought was not working and received a supplementary calculator from the professor. However, the student wanted a better calculator than the one provided, as the auxiliary calculator was slow and she realized that she would not finish in time. The student stated that she kept her phone on airplane mode and did not use any additional functions.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because the student used her cell phone on the exam, which was prohibited in the Honor Code and instructions provided by the professor.

Vote #1: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 6
 No: 0
 Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation. Council members saw no reason otherwise.

Vote #2: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that Student A is “In Violation?”

Yes: 6
 No: 0
 Abstentions: 0

Penalty Deliberations:

Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances. Some members noted that we could not confirm what functionalities the student accessed on her phone or how much of the exam is in violation. However, the Council ultimately saw no mitigating or aggravating factors.

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is an F in the course.

Vote #3: What is the appropriate penalty for Student A?

F in the course and 3 semesters of suspension:	0
F in the course and 2 semesters of suspension:	0
F in the course and 1 semester of suspension:	0
F in the course:	6
3 letter grade reduction:	0
2 letter grade reduction:	0
1 letter grade reduction:	0
Letter of Reprimand	0
Abstentions:	0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that she receive an F in the course.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 30 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
 Sofia Yi
 Clerk