

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 32, Spring 2017
28 September 2017

Members Present:

Reece Rosenthal (presiding), Stefano Romano (clerk), Talia Kramer, Ike Arjmand, Ricky Robinson, James Suffoletta, Bella Bunten (observing)

Ombuds: Matt Nobles

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Students A and B of unauthorized aid for a lower level MUSI course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A and B's written statement
- Student B's exam
- Course syllabus
- Miscellaneous study resources
- Online study guide

Plea:

Student A pled "Not In Violation." Student B pled "Not In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A started by stating that he did use the online study guide to prepare for this exam, in addition to other resources. He also states that he did not use any electronic devices or other types of unauthorized aid during the exam. He used the online study guide extensively to study terms and people for the exam, and made flashcards from this resource. Student A then stated that his phone never left his backpack throughout the entire exam, and that his study materials were not brought to the exam room either.

Student B started by stating that he did not use any unauthorized materials on this exam. He then stated that he was not sitting in the back of the classroom, as mentioned in the Letter of Accusation, and that he did not see any other students use unauthorized materials on the exam. Student B used the online study guide somewhat, but did not study from it extensively because he did not perceive the online study guide to be relevant to the class. He then stated that he did not know where his exam is.

Student B then brought in a witness, who was another student in the class. The witness stated that he did not see Student B or any other student use any unauthorized aid on the examination, and that Student B was a good student in the class, in addition to other positive character testimony.

Student A then questioned the witness. The witness stated that Student A did not receive any unauthorized aid on the exam.

Student A closed by stating that he had no unauthorized aid on the exam. He stated that he did use the online study guide to prepare for the exam, but that his effort on the exam was honest and following the principles of the Honor Code.

Student B closed by stating that he thinks the accuser accused the wrong students, due to a misunderstanding in the layout of the classroom in the Letter of Accusation. He then repeated that he did not use any unauthorized aid on the exam.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence did not support that a violation occurred because material evidence did not support that either student used unauthorized aid on an exam.

Vote #3: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 0

No: 6

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Students A and B “Not In Violation” of the Honor Code.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 1 hour

Respectfully submitted,
Stefano Romano
Clerk