

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 18-2, Fall 2017
3/20/18

Members Present:

Matt Nobles (presiding), Amy Lin (clerk), Mark Cantu, Grace Coleman, Virginia Xie, James Suffoletta, Henry Ulrich (observing)

Ombuds: Carey Wang

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of copying an online source on a homework assignment for a upper level COMP course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's homework
- Web source
- Homework instructions
- Course syllabus

Plea:

Student A pled "in violation."

Testimony:

Student A stated that she did four of the five questions on her own. Since only one of the five questions is in violation, she asks that her penalty reflect that only a small portion of the assignment was in violation. She did not collaborate with any other students in the class. She found the question via Google.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because the student's homework answers directly matched the online answers.

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. Since the student's homework matched the online answers, Council members agreed that there was sufficient evidence to support that Student A committed the violation.

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. They did not find any reason to mitigate. Additionally, they did not find any reason to aggravate.

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is a 1 letter grade reduction.

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:	0
3 letter grade reduction:	0
2 letter grade reduction:	0
1 letter grade reduction:	6
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 a 1 letter grade reduction.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 20 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
 Amy Lin
 Clerk