

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case #15-3, Spring 2023
02.07.2023

Members Present:

Andrew Barber (presiding), Bora Göbekli (clerk), Izzi Reynolds, Pedro Ribeiro, Zach Zelman, William Wang, Anne Rubsamen (observing)

Ombuds: Philip Seo, Thelo Lewis (observing)

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of receiving unauthorized aid on several quizzes for an undergraduate level EEPS course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Course Syllabus
- Total time spent on Canvas
- Quiz grades for entire class
- Time spent on Quizzes compared to random students

Plea:

Student A pled "not in violation."

Testimony:

The student denied any claim of unauthorized aid for any assignment. They said that the discrepancy between the allegedly cheated assignments—where they received higher grades—and other assignments where their grades were relatively lower was caused by personal, non-class related problems. They said they only cooperated with other students only when it was authorized by the syllabus and the professor. Additionally, they argued that their success in the quizzes were due to their previous familiarity for the subject, and not due to any outside aid. This was also given as the reason for their relatively low Canvas activity.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation did not occur in light of the Canvas data presented by the accuser.

Several panel members argued that the student could have possibly achieved their unusually high grades through their own merit without external help. Some other panel members argued that a violation may have occurred due to the student's standout results in the quizzes. Overall, the board has decided that although the student's performance is

uniquely strong, the time spent on Canvas and overall class performance was not enough evidence to declare a violation.

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

Yes: 0

No: 4+1

Abstentions: 2

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “Not in Violation” of the Honor Code.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 1 hour 15 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Bora Göbekli
Clerk