

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 13-1, Fall 2023
1-12-24

Members Present:

Rodolfo Gutierrez-Garcia (presiding), Simon Yellen (clerk), Kamal Tijani, Todd Hao, Helena Song, Riya Yarlagadda, Anastasia Loiko (observing)

Ombuds: Ammar Siddiqi

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of using code from past student, Student B on a pledged project for lower level CMOR course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student B's written statement
- lecture material
- student samples
- Assignment instructions
- Code comparison
- Explanation of comparison software

Plea:

Student A pled "In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A did not offer an opening statement. Councilmembers confirmed that Student and A asked Student B for their code.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because of the similarities in the code and Student A's own admission.

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

Yes: 6+1

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation.

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

Yes: 6+1

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

Penalty Deliberations:

Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances. Student A was not offered the Alternative Resolution due to potential aggravating factors. The majority of the panel felt that Student A's asking Student B for their code was a breach of trust of a misrepresentation severe enough to warrant aggravation. Ultimately Student B should have known that providing the code to Student A was a breach of the honor code for the course.

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is an **2 letter reduction**

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

F in the course	0
3 letter grade reduction:	0
2 letter grade reduction:	1+1
1 letter grade reduction:	5
Letter of Reprimand	0
Abstentions:	0

The CPS severity starts at a baseline of severity level 2.

Straw Poll #4: What is the appropriate severity level for Student A?

Expulsion:	0
Suspension:	0
Reprimand:	6+1
Warning:	0
Abstentions:	0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A "In Violation" of the Honor Code and recommends that they receive a **1 letter grade** reduction and a **reprimand**.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 45 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Simon Yellen
Clerk