

Check yourself.

STUDY/TEST EDITION

Did you refrain from uploading materials, questions, or answers to 'study' or 'homework help' websites?

Sharing course materials on 'study' websites, whether it is before, during, or after an exam (or even after you've completed the course) is not only an academic integrity concern, but it could also be an issue of intellectual property rights and copyright law. Course materials, such as syllabi, assignment instructions, and tests, belong to their authors—your instructors. All members of UBC have a moral and legal obligation to respect intellectual property rights (check out [copyright.ubc.ca](https://www.ubc.ca/academic-integrity-matters/copyright))

Did you read your syllabus and test/exam instructions closely?

It is your responsibility to read and understand instructions and to clarify any confusions with your instructor before completing a test. Speak with your instructor ahead of time if you are unsure about expectations for the exam, such in-text citations and references, open/closed book, 'cheat' sheets, etc.

Did you refrain from using 'study' or 'homework help' websites to access solutions or answers?

Viewing questions/answers on such websites during an exam constitutes cheating, whether you are taking an in-person or at-home exam. But what about before an exam? Studying exam answers available on free or paid 'homework help' websites may seem okay—you're still studying, right? Well, you may be accessing materials procured through intellectual theft. You also risk plagiarism if answers align too closely with publisher solutions or with classmates' who study the same

Studying for midterms or exams? Use these check points to help yourself avoid some common academic misconduct pitfalls. Review this checklist while studying and before you take a test. Expectations can vary, so always clarify questions about requirements with your instructor before the test/exam takes place

answers. Taking your own notes, reviewing materials provided by the instructor, and studying from those is the best way for you to defend against misconduct. Studying ethically may not seem as 'easy' as these 'study' sites claim to be, but it is much easier than facing misconduct allegations and disciplinary measures.

Did you avoid study groups that participate in unethical behavior?

Studying with classmates is productive and fosters friendships, but be wary of unethical behavior in study groups, such as obtaining exam answers, collaboratively writing exams, or copying assignments. Use your intuition—if it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. The short-term benefits may be tempting, but you lose out on something pretty important—learning. You also put yourself—specifically, your academic and career ambitions—at serious risk. Sure, you spend less time studying when you get exam answers from a friend who took the course previously, but unethical behavior can result in serious disciplinary consequences. Ethical study groups review materials provided by the instructor, complete work independently, avoid homework help sites, ask the instructor for guidance, openly share studying approaches, and are welcoming to all. If you would not tell your instructor how you studied for their exam, then this may be a sign you are practicing study behaviors considered to be academic misconduct.

Did you know you can get 1-on-1 support with all this and more?

Get free support for all things academic integrity from an Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) consultant. Send an email to aim.ok@ubc.ca to arrange your meeting or ask questions.