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Policy:	<p>The University policy regarding student conduct and academic integrity is applicable to nursing students. The School of Nursing has adopted an Honor Code. A single academic integrity violation may disqualify a student from continuing in the School of Nursing at Valdosta State University. Disposition Policy may apply.</p> <p>Students should be aware that sanctions in the nursing profession are imposed because of the vital nature of health care as it affects client well-being. Due to the unique nature of the clinical experience in the nursing program, and to the relationship of responsibility for the welfare of the client, it is necessary for the School of Nursing to expand upon the University's definition of academic integrity. While the University relates academic integrity to traditional forms, such as plagiarism or cheating, the School of Nursing must also relate violations to unsafe, irresponsible, and unprofessional behavior in the clinical setting. A breach of academic integrity in the clinical setting includes, but is not limited to, the failure to assume and/or maintain responsibility for assigned client(s), the failure to report errors made in providing client care, falsification of documentation, and omission/commission documentation. Students, therefore, must attend clinical sessions prepared to provide competent care, and conform to ethical standards explicit in the ANA Code of Ethics, and contained within the guidelines of the Nurse Practice Act.</p>
Purpose:	Academic integrity and honesty are vital to the purposes of the University and the nursing profession. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics.
Procedure:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity in their course syllabi. 2. Sanctions for an academic integrity violation should be outlined in the course syllabus. 3. The VSU policy is that a violation of the Student Code of Conduct – Section I Academic Integrity Code may and should be handled by the professor, the student, and possibly the department head or academic dean concerned with the offense. 4. The most severe action that may be administered by any faculty member is a grade of "F" in that particular course. This is an academic response and not a disciplinary recommendation. 5. Any faculty member who has documentation and/or suspects that academic dishonesty has occurred shall

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. gather all pertinent information, and b. meet with the student or students involved, and c. inform the student or students of the academic response to an alleged violation of academic integrity. The faculty member will notify his/her department head and/or dean of these decisions and may also contact the Student Conduct Office in the Dean of Students office for procedural clarification if desired. <p>6. A student who wishes to appeal an academic response to an alleged violation of academic integrity may follow the grade appeal process.</p>
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Note: To initiate the disciplinary response process to an academic integrity violation, a faculty member will submit a Report of Academic Dishonesty, along with supporting documentation as noted on the report (Report of Academic Dishonesty) to the Student Conduct Office in the Dean of Students Office.