



EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

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TO: The University Community

CC: Dana Fohl, J.D., Vice President of Compliance & University Counsel
Sara Zeigler, Ph.D., Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
David T. McFaddin, Ed.D, President

FROM: Ethan Durham, Manager of University Policy Development & Administration

DATE: October 22, 2025

RE: Comment Period: Academic Regulations 4.1.3ACR Academic Integrity & 4.1.4 ACR Course Syllabi

MEMORANDUM

Substantive revisions to Academic Regulations 4.1.3, Academic Integrity, and 4.1.4, Course Syllabi, have been drafted and are now posted for the required ten-day public comment period in accordance with [University Policy 1.1.1, Policy on Policies and Regulations](#). Copies of the draft revisions and the public comment form are available on the [EKU Policy Website](#). The comment period, consisting only of business days, will begin on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, and will end at the close of business on Monday, November 3, 2025.

Please be advised that a drafting team for this regulation was convened in Fall 2025 and included the following members: Dr. Lisa Blue, Director of AI Strategies; Emily J. Davis, Assistant Dean of Students & Director of Student Conduct; Dan Royalty, Assistant Director of Student Conduct & Communication Standards; Dr. Matthew Winslow, Director, FCT&L Initiatives & Professor; Dr. Linda Hunter, School of Nursing Associate Professor; Dr. Matthew Howell, Professor of Government & Faculty Senate Vice Chair; Dr. Ginny Whitehouse, Director of the School of Communication & Professor; Dana Fohl J.D., Vice President of Compliance & University Counsel; and Ethan Durham, Manager of University Policy Development & Administration. The team's work was undertaken in consultation with the University's newly formed Cross-Functional AI Strategy Council, a body composed of diverse stakeholders representing academic, administrative, and technical units of the University.

I. Summary of Revisions

Revisions to Academic Regulation 4.1.3, Academic Integrity, modernize the University procedures and clarify expectations for student use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools for academic purposes. The regulation now defines "Artificial Intelligence Tools" and "Disclosure of Artificial Intelligence Use," and integrates AI into the existing definitions of Cheating, Fabrication, and Plagiarism. Prohibited conduct now includes giving or receiving unauthorized assistance from any source, human or AI, and using or failing to disclose AI tools when such use is restricted by the instructor or University representative. Additional updates include refining the procedural steps of when a violation is suspected, revising titles/unit names, and removing outdated references,

including the ECU Direct Academic Integrity Pledge. The former Step 6 of the appeal process to the Provost and Board of Regents has been deleted to reflect current institutional practice.

Parallel revisions to Academic Regulation 4.1.4, Course Syllabi, establish a new syllabus requirement mandating that all course syllabi include a clear statement outlining the instructor's expectations for student use of AI tools. Faculty may designate such use as Prohibited, Conditional/Controlled, or Minimally Restricted at their discretion for their course, consistent with Academic Regulation 4.1.3. This new requirement allows for faculty discretion while requiring transparent communication of AI course expectations to students.

Training and guidance for faculty, staff, and students on the implementation and rollout of these revisions are being developed by the University's Cross-Functional AI Strategy Council.

II. Comment Period

In accordance with Policy 1.1.1, these proposed revisions to Academic Regulations 4.1.3, Academic Integrity, & 4.1.4, Course Syllabi, are now submitted to the University community for review during the public comment period. As required, the President's Cabinet, Provost Cabinet, Staff Council, and Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate are being notified of this posting. All comments received during the ten-day period will be routed by the University Policy Designee to University Counsel, the drafting team, and other appropriate stakeholders for consideration prior to finalization.

Should you have questions, please leave a comment directly on the public comment form on the ECU Policy Website or reach out to the Office of University Counsel (university.counsel@ecu.edu).
