

Academic Integrity

DoDEA Virtual School operates under the expectation that all students will hold to academic standards that are both ethical and honest; thus, any sort of academic dishonesty is prohibited. All assignments submitted to your instructor should be your original work.

Though this list is not all-inclusive, using a language translator or any form of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI such as Chat GPT, Chatbox, Bing Chat, etc.), plagiarism, cheating, copying the work of another student, copying answers from the internet, or copying any source other than the student's own creation, are all examples of academic dishonesty. Students who violate this policy are subject to academic consequences.

Every student is required to complete academic integrity instruction in the course orientation. For more information, please refer to Academic Integrity in the DVHS Online Learning Guide.

Students who do not abide by the DVHS academic integrity policy may be subject to a variety of progressive actions. These actions may include reteaching expectations, counseling, sponsor/parent/local school administration contact, a reduction in grade, or a zero on the assignment.

1st incident: 0 on the assignment and can redo for up to full credit of the earned grade (note in gradebook and discussion with student)

2nd incident: 0 on the assignment and can redo with a 20% penalty of the earned grade (note in gradebook and parent/student conference)

3rd incident and beyond: 0 and no opportunity to redo (note in gradebook, parent/student conference with administration, and possible return to local school).

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that can create new content, such as text, images, audio, video, or code, based on the data it has learned from. [While generative AI can be used for various purposes, it also poses some academic integrity concerns, especially when it comes to writing assignments¹²](#)

Some of the academic integrity concerns of using generative AI are:

- **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the act of presenting someone else's work or ideas as one's own, without proper acknowledgment or citation. Using generative AI to write assignments or parts of assignments is considered plagiarism, as it is not the original work of the student. Copying and pasting the response that the tool provides or running material through multiple AI generators to avoid detection, are examples of plagiarism.
- **Lack of proper citation of sources:** Citation is the practice of acknowledging the sources of information, ideas, or arguments that one uses in an academic work. Citation helps to avoid plagiarism, give credit to the original authors, support one's claims with evidence, and enable readers to locate and verify the sources. Using generative AI to write assignments or parts of assignments does not exempt students from citing the sources that the tool used to generate the content.
- **Inaccurate, misleading, biased, false, or limited information in responses to question prompts:** Generative AI models are not infallible; they can produce content that is inaccurate, misleading, biased, false, or limited

in scope or depth. This can happen because the models are trained on large amounts of data that may contain errors, inconsistencies, biases, or outdated information.

Translation Software

Translation software that converts English words to a target language works, and is useful, for example, when travelling, but the technology is not perfect. This means that some significant mistranslations will almost always occur and sometimes these sites produce pure nonsense and are not appropriate for use in world language courses.

Turning in an assignment with a translation derived from using translation software is another type of academic integrity violation and is considered cheating. Frequently, teachers recognize the use of such programs because of the characteristic "feel" of computer translations and the typical errors that occur. Additionally, teachers will have two students from opposite sides of the country or world submit identical pieces with these types of errors, which is a dead giveaway for the teacher.

If you need help with a translation on an assignment in your world language course, please reach out to your teacher. They are there to help you and support you as you work to improve your language skills.

Plagiarism

When completing written assignments or projects, your goal should be to look at what other people have done, analyze that information, properly synthesize it into your work, then give them credit on a works cited or reference page...not to copy/paste directly from the online source, and/or neglect to include a citation. This practice is known as plagiarism, or the act of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. Please note that you do not have to copy/paste text, "word for word", for it to be considered plagiarism.

Check out this recent report from Turnitin on plagiarism: [The Plagiarism Spectrum: Tagging Ten Types of Unoriginal Work](#) Then view this video, and consider how copyright and fair use should be considered when gathering content for written assignments:

Direct Link: Creativity, Copyright, and Fair Use - <https://youtu.be/xvZHNwBHirQ>

Should you have a question about plagiarism, please ask your teacher before turning in something that could cause you to receive no credit for that project. Frequently, DVS teachers anticipate that students will need the support of a plagiarism checker and employ the use of Turnitin in Schoology. Turnitin assignments require you to upload your paper to see if all sources are properly cited, as well as conduct a check for similarity between your paper and other sources online. Turnitin will create a similarity report for you and your teacher to review, checking for similarity between your paper and the vast number of online sources. The goal of Turnitin is to help educators maintain academic integrity by ensuring original work from students, while giving students a tool, in the form of a similarity report for you to review, so you can go back and make corrections to your assignment to avoid academic integrity violations. Check out the following resources for using Turnitin when your teacher uses Turnitin Assignments in Schoology, and remember to ask your teacher if you have any questions or concerns:

Direct Link: [Overview of Turnitin Assignments in Schoology](#)

Direct Link: [Understanding the Turnitin Similarity Report](#)

If your teacher does not use Turnitin Assignments, you can still use Turnitin's Google Draft Coach to help you with citations and similarity before you submit your final writing assignment. To access the Google Draft Coach, go to Google docs and open a new document. Then click add-ons and select Turnitin Draft Coach to access the tool. Please take a few moments to watch the video below to learn about using Google Draft Coach to check your assignment for plagiarism, best practices, and citations:

Direct Link: [Overview of Turnitin's Google Draft Coach](#)

Citing Sources

In your course(s), you may be required to conduct research to find information on various topics. There is nothing wrong with including other people's findings or creativity as a part of your project - as long as you give proper credit to those people. Your goal should be to look at what other people have done, analyze that information, properly synthesize it into your work, then give them credit to the author/creator on a works cited or reference page.

There are several places to go for information about citing sources (aka - giving credit to someone whose work you used) but your school's media specialist is the best and closest source. When citing sources, you need to be able to tell who wrote or created the source you are using, as well as when and where it was published.

The best rule of thumb is that if you are in doubt about whether to cite a source...cite it. If you are not able to work with your school's media specialist on citing sources, the following websites are a great place to start learning about citing sources:

Direct Link: [Turnitin: How to Implement Citation and Paraphrasing into the Writing Process](#)

Direct Link: [Purdue University Online Writing Lab](#)

Academic Integrity Attestation

All DVS students are required to abide by ethical academic standards. Academic dishonesty including plagiarism, cheating, copying the work of another, using technology for illicit purposes, or any unauthorized communication between students for the purpose of gaining advantage during an examination is strictly prohibited (though this list is not all inclusive). These expectations apply to all school-related tests, quizzes, reports, class assignments, and projects, both in and out of class. To help combat academic integrity violations, many teachers post attestation statements for students to agree, or attest, to before they take tests or submit written assignments:

I have read the DoDEA Virtual High School Academic Integrity policy. I understand that the DVHS Academic Integrity Policy covers all school related work including, but not limited to, class assignments, quizzes, projects, and exams. Additionally, though this list is not inclusive, I understand that the Academic Integrity Policy includes using a language translator or any form of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI such as Chat GPT, Chatbox, Bing Chat, etc.), plagiarism, cheating, copying the work of another student, copying answers from the internet, or copying any source other than the student's own creation. Using technology for illicit purposes or any unauthorized communication between students for the purposes of gaining advantage on assignments or exams is strictly prohibited.

I acknowledge that I am expected to comply with these guidelines for academic honesty. Any cheating or copying may result in an administrative referral and a possible grade reduction to include a zero for the assignment with no chance for resubmission.