Undergraduate students' views on academic dishonesty

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Abstract

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1. Introduction

1.1 Students' perceptions about academic dishonesty and reasons for participation in it

1.1 Opportunities for reducing academic dishonesty

2. Methodology

3. Results

3.1. The nature of academic dishonesty

I think academic dishonesty is, for example, when people are cheating during tests or exams... or using phones where they have materials of certain work in written form... or paper cribs. (Mary)

/.../ Consequences of academic dishonesty, well... exmatriculation... throwing out when you get caught. I know this is very rough... We were told already on the first university year that if you copy other student's work you'll be kicked out right away, no matter /.../. (James)

For example, in my course I've noticed that Russian girls tend to cheat very much. This might not be true but this is my experience. (John)

3.2. Reasons for academic dishonesty

I think students are forced to cheat because of the lack of time. Certainly one reason is laziness or attitude 'what for do I need it, I never use this knowledge during my life'. People tend to be rather lazy and certainly they don't have much time, depends on your schedule, for example, how busy your semester is. If you really have little time you'll rather do important things first and think about copying if it is possible /.../. (Kate)

/.../ if during the whole exam or test member of teaching staff is looking at the computer only and is not looking around the classroom at all the cheating will be very easy. For example, if the exam is being carried out in large auditorium and member of teaching staff is only sitting at the table or standing in the back row then actually he/she is not able to see what's going on /.../. (Mary)

3.3. Opportunities for reducing academic dishonesty

/.../ to seat people away from one another. To make it more difficult regarding space and place. And certainly to leave bags at the door and not to take the phone with him-/herself. (John)

/.../ well... (smiles) like you avoid another bad thing – you just don't cheat. You don't use cribs, you just do everything very punctiliously, you surround yourself with people who don't value academic dishonesty or in other words they value doing themselves /.../. (James)

4. Discussion and conclusion

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