10 Tips to Limit Cheating in Your Course

Every faculty member faces the daunting task of upholding academic integrity in a world that provides more and more opportunities for cheating. Thanks to modern technology and the internet, cheating has gotten both more sophisticated and easier to accomplish. Luckily, strategies and technologies exist that help limit cheating in your course. Here are 10 tips from Teaching and Learning Services.

1. Get to know UTSA’s Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. Many faculty tackle academic integrity issues without reviewing the official H.O.P. policy. This leads to numerous problems down the road.

2. Make multiple versions of your exams from a large test bank.

3. Get ideas from our own UTSA Testing Center. They keep up with the latest trends and issues in academic dishonesty.

4. Consider using open book tests to reduce testing panic and temptation.

5. Move from fewer high-point value tests and papers to more low-point value tests and papers.

6. Add a one-minute, in-class summary paper that students write about the research paper they just submitted.

7. Students may think nothing of sharing work from a previous class, so avoid using the same assignment or test each semester.

8. Talk about plagiarism and cheating. Research shows that students don’t always understand what behaviors constitute academic dishonesty.

9. Ask students to write out and sign the Roadrunner Creed.

10. Don’t go it alone. When in doubt, reach out to the Student Conduct and Community Standards team.