Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi strives to protect its educational community and to maintain social discipline among its students and student organizations. The University endeavors to foster the development of students who are ethically sensitive and responsible community members. Since students serve as representatives of the A&M- Corpus Christi campus community, inappropriate behavior, whether occurring on or off campus, will be investigated and adjudicated in a manner pursuant with the institution’s educational and community development goals. Consistent with this purpose, reasonable efforts will be made to foster the personal and social development of those students who are found responsible for violations of University regulations and local, state, or federal law. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Student Code of Conduct. Available on-line: http://www.tamucc.edu/~students/codeof.htm, Paragraph 1.

I. Academic Honesty

Honesty is defined as truthfulness and integrity. Academic dishonesty is broadly defined as an act that functions to give a student unfair scholastic advantage. More specifically academic dishonesty is presenting any one or all course assignments as the student’s original work when it/they are not; unless indicated by documented approval of the professor or pre-approved group work assignments. Course assignments include but are not limited to: examinations, written assignments, quizzes, research projects and oral presentations.

II. Violations of Academic Honesty

According to the University Student Code of Conduct academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

A. **Cheating** - The term *cheating* includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the University faculty or staff.

B. **Plagiarism** - The term *plagiarism* includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling or distribution of term papers or other academic
materials. See Appendix C for software to detect plagiarism and tips for students and faculty.

C. Collusion - Collusion is defined as participating or conspiring in and/or having knowledge of dishonest behavior that violates academic honesty and professional integrity.

III. Professional Integrity

The student nurse enrolled in the College of Nursing at Texas A&M University – CC is preparing to enter the profession of nursing and is expected to demonstrate professional integrity in academic and clinical practice areas. Professional conduct includes but is not limited to the following: university, college of nursing, hospital, agency and community guidelines, rules, regulations and laws related to behavior as determined by these entities.

A. For specific University, College of Nursing and Board of Nursing student conduct guidelines see the University Code of Conduct at: http://www.tamucc.edu/~students/codeof.htm, the College of Nursing Student Handbook at: http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/nursing/stuhandbook02/ and the Texas Board of Nursing – Professional/Unprofessional Conduct - Texas Administrative Code at: http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtacExt.TacPage?sl=R@app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=22&pt=11&ch=217&r=12

IV. Violations of Professional Integrity

According to the College of Nursing, violations of professional integrity (unprofessional conduct) include those identified by the University Student Code of Conduct, College of Nursing and the assigned clinical area such as hospital, agency and community. Additionally, unprofessional conduct includes but is not limited to:

A. Untimely submission of academic and/or clinical practice assignments
B. Classroom misconduct that is disruptive of the environment including but not limited to: tardiness, talking among students during lectures, challenging the classroom behavioral guidelines identified in the syllabus, sleeping, continual arguing of test questions and rudeness to the faculty/guest speaker
C. Clinical misconduct that is disruptive to the practice area includes but is not limited to: tardiness, unprofessional dress, taking longer than the assigned breaks, rudeness/insubordination to hospital staff and unprofessional or inappropriate language or behaviors.
V. Sanctions for Violations

A. Consistent with the University’s Policy on Student Conduct the following actions may be instituted when a violation occurs:

1. Verbal warning
2. Written reprimand (See Appendix A)
3. Requirement to re-do or make up the work in question
4. Requirement to submit additional work
5. Dismissal from the classroom or clinical area
6. Diminishing the grade on the work in question
7. Assignment of a failing grade (an “F”) to the work in question
8. Assignment of a failing grade (an “F”) for the course in question
9. Referring the student to the University Judicial Review System (Student Code of Conduct)

B. The faculty will determine the appropriate level/s of sanctions consistent with their judgment about the seriousness of the violation.

C. The faculty will notify the appropriate Program Coordinator and Associate Dean.
Appendix A
Written Reprimand

This is my notice that my behavior is disruptive to the class as perceived by my instructor______________________________

Description of behavior:

_________ Tardiness
_________ Sleeping in class
_________ Disrespectful behavior to instructor/guest speaker
_________ Failure to comply with conduct instructions in the syllabus
_________ Other (specify)

I________________________ acknowledge receipt of this notification.
_________ Date/Time

I recognize that the third infraction will result in________________________

____________________________________________________________________

_________________________     _______________________
Instructor Signature         Date/Time
Appendix B

Quick Tips for Faculty

- Set clear, firm boundaries of acceptable behavior for your class on your first class day. These should be clearly stated in your syllabus.
- Try to address disruptive behavior in an informal setting first (1:1) as the student may not be aware that his/her behavior is unacceptable.
- Keep your college/department administration informed of the problems you are having.
- Call Student Affairs (825-2616) for consultation to address concerns.
Appendix C

Web sites that address plagiarism in more detail.


**Indiana State University Tips on Plagiarism:**
[http://www.aug.edu/sociology/plagiarism.html](http://www.aug.edu/sociology/plagiarism.html)