Academic Integrity & Journalism Students

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Problem of Practice

In today's climate, ethics in journalism is even more imperative. Yet while students seem to understand professional ethics, they don't have the same stance on academic integrity. How do we reduce plagiarism and other dishonesty violations?

Research Questions

RQ 1: Can required online education increase student knowledge of academic integrity?

RQ 2: Can required online education decrease academic honesty violations among students?

RQ 3: Will establishing a connection between professional ethics and academic integrity improve the latter?

Context

WWU - Submit another work (15%)
WWU - Unauthorized Collaboration (20%)
WWU - Cheat on test (22%)
WWU - Plagiarism (30%)
College of Humanities & Social Sciences - Plagiarism (65%)
Dept. of Journalism - Plagiarism (75%)

WWU Journalism Students

- More than 300 students enrolled in department
- 251 majors/pre-majors
- 86 minors
- PR - 96 majors/pre-majors; 57 minors
- News-Ed - 78 majors/pre-majors, 29 minors
- Visual Journalism - 73 majors/pre-majors
Theoretical Framework

Innovation
Online self-paced modules on academic integrity education

Given access when they declare as a pre-major

Must complete prior to being accepted into major

Four modules:
- Academic integrity at Western and violation overview
- Proper citation of sources
- Collaboration and duplicate papers
- Professional/academic ethics

Sources
