

BURDUR MEHMET AKIF ERSOY UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is one of the fundamental principles of Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University. The philosophy of our university is based on the belief in raising global citizens who are honest, responsible, and aware of ethical values. Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University expects its students to be aware of the concepts that constitute academic integrity and to demonstrate proper academic conduct throughout their lives.

All students and members of our university recognize the importance of possessing moral values and exhibiting virtuous and honest behavior. Academic integrity fundamentally means fulfilling one's own responsibilities and genuinely possessing the knowledge one claims to have. In this context, students at Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University are encouraged to question, think critically, and think creatively. It is highly important how students structure their ideas, express their opinions, and reflect ideas that do not belong to them.

At our university, all students are encouraged to understand the benefits of properly and honestly conducted research in every type of assignment and study, and to be aware of the meanings of originality, intellectual property, and creative expression. Students are expected to submit accurate assignments and projects based on their creativity, individual and original ideas, and their own way of expression. When students include the ideas of others in these assignments and projects, they are required to follow the rules of citation and referencing.

The Academic Integrity Policy at our university covers not only students but also academic staff. Our academic integrity policy supports accuracy, personal integrity, and the fair conduct of teaching, learning, and assignments.

The goal of the Academic Integrity Policy at our university is to ensure that academic processes in all units are transparent, fair, and continuous. This policy defines the rights and responsibilities of all university members in this regard, enables everyone to understand what constitutes proper and improper academic practices, and clearly explains what actions will be taken in the event of a violation.

At Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, the concept of academic integrity is approached positively and accepted as a part of academic life. The academic integrity policy here is designed not only to detect and punish misconduct but also to support and ensure fair academic practices. Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University values openness to sharing ideas and recognizes the role of exchanging different perspectives in the development of the academic environment. Therefore, students are encouraged to communicate and discuss their courses, research, and assignments with faculty members and classmates. Such academic discussions and exchanges of ideas form the essence of academic life. Based on this understanding, everyone in the academic environment trusts one another and works together. In order to ensure the appropriate use of sources, information, and ideas, while also continuing to value and protect academic dialogue, our university has established policies regarding academic integrity.

Our policies regarding academic integrity apply to all units and members of the university, and their purposes are as follows:

1. To define the concepts of academic integrity and academic misconduct for all students across all university programs and practices,
2. To emphasize the importance of originality in student work,
3. To define the duties and responsibilities of administrators, academic staff, students, and all employees in identifying and preventing possible misconduct,
4. To prevent and resolve unnecessary tension that may arise between students and academic staff,
5. To clearly state the consequences of misconduct,
6. To define the procedures followed by unit administrations in investigating suspicious work,
7. To promote proper academic practices in order to eliminate possible misconduct.

In line with these purposes, Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University has adopted the following policies:

1. Academic dishonesty in assignments, examinations, and other academic performances is prohibited. Examples of student-related academic integrity violations include:
 - Submitting another person's work as one's own,
 - Using information from a website without citing the source,
 - Using information without in-text citation and failing to include the source in the references,
 - Failing to indicate the original/primary source used while presenting research results and data,
 - Distorting or misusing data obtained to support research,
 - Copying maps, pictures, photographs, drawings, graphs, etc.,
 - Using registered designs and trademarks without permission and without identifying the owner,
 - Quoting information from a book, journal, encyclopedia, or electronic source without quotation marks,
 - Translating information from another language into the assignment language without citing the source,
 - Presenting non-existent sources as if they exist,
 - Copying or directly using another student's assignment,
 - Having an assignment prepared by another person or institution,
 - Purchasing assignments,
 - Submitting the same assignment for different courses,
 - Fabricating data to be used in one's study (experiments, research results, etc.),
 - Providing false excuses or requesting additional time with invalid reasons when assignment deadlines are not met,
 - Claiming to have submitted an assignment although it was not submitted,
 - Bringing unauthorized materials into the examination hall,
 - Obtaining examination questions and sharing them with other students,
 - Exchanging information during examinations,
 - Cheating during examinations,
 - Failing to comply with examination duration rules,
 - Taking an examination on behalf of another student or having another student take an examination on one's behalf,
 - Damaging library resources,
 - Forging signatures,

- Facilitating violations of academic integrity practices.

Examples of academic integrity violations committed by academic staff include:

- Failing to notice misconduct in a student’s work,
 - Failing to analyze assignments containing insufficient or invalid information,
 - Accepting assignments that contain quotations or transfers without references,
 - Failing to check whether references/bibliographies are properly prepared in assignments and projects,
 - Failing to provide sources for all written texts and visuals given to students,
 - Providing examination questions to students before the examination,
 - Neglecting to store examination papers securely before the examination,
 - Assisting students during examinations,
 - Leaving students unsupervised during examinations,
 - Using mobile phones during examinations,
 - Giving students unauthorized additional time after the examination,
 - Ignoring students who cheat.
2. Academic dishonesty includes all forms of “cheating” (intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids); “fabrication” (intentional distortion or production of any information); “assisting academic dishonesty or falsification” (knowingly helping those who commit or attempt to commit academic dishonesty); “plagiarism” (presenting another person’s words or ideas as one’s own); and all behaviors not considered appropriate within the framework of academic integrity by the relevant board.
 3. Our university adopts the principle of treating every member of the community with respect, and all behaviors incompatible with human dignity are prohibited.
 4. Our university provides equal opportunities to all members and applicants regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, health condition, ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or citizenship, and prohibits discrimination and harassment.

Violations of Academic Integrity Principles and Their Consequences

Students at all levels of education and academic staff who fail to comply with academic integrity rules may face various sanctions, including disciplinary penalties. These violations are taken seriously, and necessary measures are taken to protect both the owners of the work and the academic reputation of Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University.

In conclusion, we expect and support all members of our university, including our students, to maintain the highest level of commitment to academic integrity. These principles form the foundation of scientific research and are essential for all students to pursue a successful and ethical academic career.