

Information on Course Content Sharing Sites for Students

There are a number of Course Content Sharing Sites on the Internet – most look like social media platforms, some claim to facilitate peer tutoring, and all provide an online space for students to upload and share copies of their assignments and other documents.

Course materials like licensed case studies, articles, and book chapters, as well as handouts and slides that your Course Instructor has produced, and slides that have been provided by the publisher of your textbook, are the intellectual property of the copyright owners. Course materials are provided to you for your individual use for the purposes of your own education, private study, criticism, and review – sharing course materials with other people is prohibited and can result in penalties for Academic Offences as well as sanctions through the Student Code of Conduct.

The College's Academic Integrity Office works with faculty to issue warnings and penalties to students who upload course materials and assignments to Course Content Sharing Sites. These students are at risk of incurring the following Academic Offences:

- The student acts to assist or facilitate an Academic Offence, or
- The student participates in activities, in person or electronically, that are not permitted in the preparation or completion of academic work.

The College's Academic Integrity Office also works with faculty to issue warnings and penalties to students who access and download course materials and assignments from Course Content Sharing Sites. These students are at risk of incurring the following Academic Offences:

- The student commits plagiarism, which means taking credit for another person's work and includes submitting another person's work as his or her own,
- The student uses materials, resources, or technologies that are not permitted in the preparation or completion of academic work,
- The student uses materials, resources, or technologies that are not permitted for use in a quiz, test, or exam, or
- The student participates in activities, in person or electronically, that are not permitted in the preparation or completion of academic work.

The College's Copyright Services Office issues takedown notices to Course Content Sharing Sites for:

- Course materials that are faculty-created content and the intellectual property of the College,
- Course materials that have been licensed for use within a course during a specific term,
- Course materials and assignments that display the College's logo, and
- Course materials and assignments that include the names, student ID numbers, and/or email addresses of other students.

The College strongly discourages the use of Course Content Sharing Sites. If you have questions about Course Content Sharing Sites or would like to report course materials or assignments found on Course Content Sharing Sites, please email academicintegrity@fanshawec.ca.