



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA  
College of Sciences

**DRAFT FOR  
DISCUSSION**

## **A College Statement Regarding Student Conduct Reporting**

8/30/2017

### Why is the Student Conduct Process Important?

Students are expected to abide by the university rules of student and academic conduct per the UCF Golden Rule (UCF 5.008). It is important to report student misconduct via the Incident Report or Academic Misconduct Report ([osc.sdes.ucf.edu/reporting](http://osc.sdes.ucf.edu/reporting)). Your report is always submitted “for information” and the Office of Student Conduct will determine if additional review and/or student conduct sanctions are appropriate.

The Academic Misconduct Report is important because as faculty you may have a student in your classroom only once, and if that student has a pattern of behavior that may not be known to you, the Office of Student Conduct will be able to take action.

### Student Conduct: Plagiarism vs Grade Change

The Office of Student Conduct has a set of criteria that determines if students are in violation of the rules of conduct, which are defined in UCF 5.008.

Student conduct violations of plagiarism are determined based on the following definition:  
Plagiarism: whereby another’s work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student’s own. (UCF 5.008 (1)(e))

This criteria may be set to a higher standard within a program, course, or assignment as per the program’s handbook or shared documentation, per documentation within a course’s syllabus, or as per the instructions of an assignment.

Therefore, while a student may not be found in violation of plagiarism by the Office of Student Conduct, a professor or program requiring higher standards of attribution and citation may find a student in violation of plagiarism and administer the appropriate grade and program level sanctions.

Furthermore, a student found not in violation does not equate to nor require that the grade given for the assignment or course be changed. Per UCF 5.015, “students found ‘not in violation’... may have proposed course or academic action removed and the instructor may determine a new grade since no violation was found”; however, there is no requirement that this occur. If, after the conduct review, the instructor or program determine that a grade or program action should change, they should do such.

This being written, a student does have the right to separately appeal the grade or program action per UCF 5.016 and UCF 5.017, as appropriate.