**Academic Integrity**

As an accredited university, Northcentral adheres to high standards of academic integrity. Students are expected to read and understand the Northcentral academic integrity requirements and follow them carefully throughout their course of study at Northcentral. Violations of these standards, whether intentional or unintentional, are reported by course Faculty to the Dean’s Office, and a series of consequences follow, ranging from a warning and the opportunity to resubmit the paper (first violation only), grade penalties for the activity, course failures, and dismissal from the university.

To become familiar with these standards, complete the following:

* Read the Northcentral University Academic Integrity Policy.
* Review the Academic Integrity Tutorial.
The Integrity Tutorial explains the academic integrity policy more in depth and will direct you to resources that will help you learn the necessary skills to maintain integrity in academic writing.
* Take the Academic Integrity Questionnaire.
Test your knowledge of the Northcentral Academic Integrity Policy by taking the Northcentral Academic Integrity Questionnaire.
* Review the section in the Academic Success Center on Choosing to Summarize, Paraphrase, or Quote. You can find this section in the Writing Handbook under Drafting. Review this website, which is related to the same topic: Successful vs. Unsuccessful Paraphrases. As mentioned above, incorrect paraphrasing is the number one reasons students at Northcentral receive violation letters.

Northcentral University holds strongly to its values, one of which is integrity. We require students to use scholarly resources for academic papers and have designed and maintain a state-of-the-art online library to ensure our students have access to the resources they need. We also recognize the importance of information literacy, and through tutorials and course activities, educate our students on this topic.

However, we do not endorse websites that give access to student papers for a fee or that require students to submit their own class papers for access. Selling or sharing course papers through these sites is highly discouraged. Sites containing assignment papers by Northcentral students will be contacted for removal.

Students are also asked to refrain from using these sites for academic purposes, specifically using another student’s work within the body of their paper. Using another student’s work for one’s own grade stands in direct violation of Northcentral’s Academic Integrity Policy and/or Code of Conduct.

If you find that you are unsure of the answers in the Academic Integrity Tutorial, go back and review the Academic Integrity Policy. Learning this information now will help you avoid difficulties in the future.

**APA Form and Style**

*The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* is the gold standard for professional and academic writing and is the style used at Northcentral. Mastering APA form and style takes time, and there’s no time like the present to begin! For starters, you will review some of the basic APA writing rules, especially those that apply to citation and references.

**How to Read a Scientific Paper**

A scientific or research paper is a special type of document, and it requires special reading skills. Check out the resource *How to Read a Scientific Paper* found in the Books and Resources for this Week for some tips on how to read a research paper efficiently to make the most of the material in the least amount of time!