

## Impact of an academic integrity seminar in the ethical behavior of college students

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**Type:** Working paper

**Section:** Academic Integrity projects and applications

### **Abstract:**

This paper presents a case study that explores the impact that an Academic Integrity Seminar implemented by the University of Monterrey had to promote ethical behavior amongst undergraduate students -from different academic programs- found responsible for dishonesty breaches.

The purpose of the four module hybrid seminar is: to increase student's awareness about the consequences of acting with integrity; to reflect on ethical actions and virtues; and to provide academic and emotional tools to live academic integrity. During a two week period, the students participated in several educational activities.

This qualitative approach study was limited to a single case, the first seminar offered to students during the fall of 2017. 2 instructors and 5 students participated as sources of information and multiple data collection instruments were used such as interviews, direct observations and analysis of documents produced by the participants.

The results were interpreted according to an Aristotelian theoretical framework and they revealed that the seminar helped the students to develop some skills such as decision-taking, citing, referencing and paraphrasing; and awakened different emotions and attitudes related to ethical action like social awareness and the intrinsic reward whenever someone has done what is right. It also suggests that it is necessary to help the students realize the opportunity and value of their participation.

The results of this case study cannot be generalized but they provide insightful ideas to improve the Seminar for future deployments or to inspire similar endeavors in other institutions around the globe.

**Keywords:** Academic dishonesty, academic integrity, ethical education, learning, higher education.