HONOR STATEMENT

As Spartans, we continually strive to hold ourselves to values of the highest ethical honor. As students, we will empower an atmosphere as future leaders to uphold honesty in our work, hold our peers accountable to the highest standard, and take pride that integrity is worth more than our grade. We pledge that these ethics will carry beyond our time as students at Michigan State University, fostering an improved recognition for personal best and integrity in our society.

Implementing an Institutional Honor Code at Michigan State University

““The added value of a degree from Michigan State University as a result of this campaign is recognizable when all students are responsible for upholding honesty in everything they do. Spartans are leading society to a more educated culture of integrity beyond the time as a student.”

-ASMSU Office of the President

Feedback, Comments, Questions?
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WHO WILL UPHOLD HONOR?
SPARTANS WILL.
WHAT IS THE SPARTAN CODE OF HONOR?

The Spartan Code of Honor is a student initiative with the purpose to promote personal integrity inside and outside of the classrooms at Michigan State University. Upon full development, the Spartan Code of Honor will be a statement that describes a personal commitment to honest and ethical behavior. All Spartans will be expected to uphold this initiative in its full extent beginning as a student in order to carry throughout the lifetime of an individual that graduates from Michigan State University.

WHY IS THE SPARTAN CODE OF HONOR ESSENTIAL?

Spartans come from different value traditions and backgrounds, but the reputation of Michigan State University and the awarding of degrees depends on a full community commitment to integrity. If students and faculty can agree on the standards by which we conduct ourselves within the University, our classroom environment and the overall campus becomes a fairer place for all. If individuals outside of the University know the standards by which we conduct ourselves, the reputation of a Spartan will be enhanced; Michigan State University will be known as the place where Spartans learn and practice ethical behavior as well as personal responsibility.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The goal for the Spartan Code of Honor is to be a standalone statement that will be adhered to in all colleges. The honor statement will be in place as a preamble to the Student Rights and Responsibilities in Article I, as most pertaining to the guiding values and principles that all students identify with closely. After consent through University Academic Governance before the end of the 2015-16 academic school year, ASMSU will perform a full rollout in the fall semester of the 2016-17 school year. This will encourage faculty implementation in course syllabi, as well as visual elements (i.e. stickers on BlueBooks, Desire2Learn checkbox, etc.).

MOVING FORWARD

Spartan involvement will be crucial to the crafting, endorsement, and adoption of the honor statement. To move forward, ASMSU will be holding round table discussions with student groups and college governance committees. In addition, we will be looking to the current colleges at Michigan State University that have implemented honor codes of their own, looking for their advice to the improvement and success of the Spartan Code of Honor. Coordinating the honor statement to be a unifying element to students regardless of their major or concentration, ASMSU will have conversations with our resource centers that aide student success in their endeavors (i.e. neighborhood engagement centers).

TESTIMONIES

“We must rely on honest scholarship – that our work is our own, that we do not take credit for the work of others, and that we have worked to our own highest abilities. To build the kind of academic community that is honored and esteemed outside our community, we have to pledge ourselves to the highest level of integrity inside the community.”

Provost June Youatt

“Integrity is the foundation of defining a person’s life. The collection of life’s choices, actions and relationships allow an individual to excel with integrity. While we are each accountable for our own behavior, Michigan State University delivers an environment to shine as a student and live as a Spartan of Honor.”

Athletic Director Mark Hollis

“The College of Nursing has a College level honor code in place. We believe that as a practice discipline it is crucial that our students maintain the highest standards of integrity in all of their work both didactic and the clinical practice experiences.”

Teresa Wehrwein, PhD, RN, NEA-BC
Associate Dean for Academic and Clinical Affairs
College of Nursing

“Maintaining a high standard of academic integrity is a responsibility for all Spartans. While Lyman Briggs College currently has a long-standing honor code in place for its own students, the new MSU Spartan Code of Honor is essential for holding everyone accountable at Michigan State University.”

Joseph Friedli
Senior, Lyman Briggs College
President, Lyman Briggs Student Advisory Council

“The Broad College of Business holds all business students to the Broad Honor Code. A campus wide emphasis of integrity, respect, and continuous improvement would be beneficial to all Spartans. Who will lead with integrity, honesty, and respect? Spartans Will.”

Zachary Terwilliger
Senior, Eli Broad Business College
President, Eli Broad Business Student Senate

“Ensuring that MSU creates an environment in which students are creating 100% original work not only makes them better writers, researchers, and learners, but also makes our University look even more prestigious than it already is.”

Della Uekert
Sophomore, James Madison College