

**Abstract of the Honor Council**  
**Case #9, Fall 2015**  
**4/20/16**

**Members Present:**

Alex Metcalf (presiding), Matt Roorda (clerk), Ike Arjmand, Angel Garces, Allie Salter, Sara Meadow, Allen Hu, Katie Jensen, Owais Syed

**Ombuds:** Natalie Danckers

**Letter of Accusation:**

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of cheating on a midterm for an upper level BUSI course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

**Evidence Submitted:**

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student A's submitted midterm
- Course syllabus
- Written statement from Student A's friend

**Plea:**

Student A pled "in violation."

**Testimony:**

Student A pled in violation because he had his phone out during the midterm. However, he claims that he was just texting his friend to let his friend know that he would not be able to attend a soccer game that evening.

**Verdict Deliberations:**

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because the student admitted to violating the honor code, and his testimony supported this plea.

Vote #1: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 9  
 No: 0  
 Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation. Due to the student's own testimony, councilmembers found him in violation.

Vote #2: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that Student A is "In Violation?"

Yes: 9  
 No: 0  
 Abstentions: 0

**Penalty Deliberations:**

Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances. Some Council members mitigated for cooperation; others mitigated for amount of the assignment in violation. They saw no aggravating factors.

The majority of the council believe that a letter of reprimand would be sufficient, given the evidence that we have

Vote #3: What is the appropriate penalty for Student A?

F in the course and 3 semesters of suspension:	0
F in the course and 2 semesters of suspension:	0
F in the course and 1 semester of suspension:	0
F in the course:	0
3 letter grade reduction:	0
2 letter grade reduction:	0
1 letter grade reduction:	0
2/3 letter grade reduction	0
1/3 letter grade reduction	0
Letter of Reprimand	9
Abstentions:	0

**Decision:**

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that he receive a letter of reprimand. A Prior Violation Flag is also attached to his record.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 10 minutes

Respectfully submitted,  
 Matt Roorda  
 Clerk