

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 10, Fall 2016
December 1, 2016

Members Present:

Katie Jensen (presiding), Alex Metcalf (clerk), Ellen Diemert, Peter Rizzi, Stephano Romano, Ryan Carlson

Ombuds: Matt Nobles

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of plagiarizing for an essay in a lower level philosophy course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Syllabus
- Paper Information
- Student Paper
- Published Paper

Plea:

Student A pled "In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A stated that she did not intend to commit a violation. She stated that she attempted to cite the sources mentioned within the article, but acknowledged that she failed to cite the article noted in the letter of accusation. Additionally, she agreed that she failed to cite some sources used within the original paper.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred, both because of the student's written statement, and the similarity between the submitted essay and the source essay.

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

Yes: 6
 No: 0
 Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation. Council members could not see a reason otherwise.

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

Yes: 6

No: 0
 Abstentions: 0

Penalty Deliberations:

Council members opened by discussing mitigating circumstances. Some Council members brought up the possibility of mitigating for the amount of the assignment in violation.

Council members did not consider any aggravating factors.

Based on the CPS, Council members were split between an F in the course and a 3 letter grade reduction.

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:	5
3 letter grade reduction:	1
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	0
Abstentions:	0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that she receive an F in the course.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 20 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
 Alex Metcalf
 Clerk