Deterring Dishonesty in Coursework
(Cheating, Plagiarism, Unauthorized Collaboration)

- Include the Nicholls Student Handbook for Online Classes on your syllabus or course website
- Have students sign course-level contracts to acknowledge academic integrity policies and procedures
- Select the smallest time frame possible for the students to complete the exam—an example often used is 45 seconds per question
- Enable a small “log-in period” to the exam—this limits a student who has completed the exam from telling other students what was covered
- Display a set number of questions per page to reduce multiple copying
- Shuffle test questions, question answers, and ordering
- Do not allow multiple attempts on exams
- Select Scores only under Review options so students can’t view and copy correct answers after taking a test
- Require students to input a unique password to access the exam
- Use Turn It In plagiarism software for all student papers
- Clearly state the level and type of collaboration allowed in courses
- Proctor exams through use of live proctors or remote proctoring software (forms available on nicholls.edu/distance
- Include ethical decision-making units in all courses and for all disciplines.
- Provide multiple assessment instruments for students including multiple choice, group projects, case studies, project based tests, open-book exams, and classroom participation.
- Use teamwork/group work learning strategies to increase peer accountability
- Developing unique assignments and not repeating assignments in courses on a frequent basis.
- Use of assignments with scaffolded completion of activities to have students show work processes
- Assign more assessments throughout the course and other types of assessments in lieu of the types of exams that require proctoring
- Set a low point value for the exam—this will reduce pressure to cheat since exams do not represent a large percentage of their grade
- Provide opportunities for student reflection about project processes
- View the activity report of when and for how long your students access your site (click on their name under Participants to view this)
- Video cameras can also assist in monitoring students online
- Use of software for locking down browsers during exams/quizzes
- Report any academic dishonesty through proper channels to deter repeat offenders