



Avoid the risks of academic dishonesty

7 June 2022

Dear students,

With end-of-semester exams and assessments underway at many universities across Australia, we have received reports that [contract cheating](#) services have stepped up their efforts to target students via social media advertising, flyers on campus, and scam emails.

Contract cheating involves engaging a third party to complete part or all of your work and then submitting the work as if you had completed it yourself. Engaging in contract cheating is risky and students should be aware that if caught, you'll face serious academic consequences under the University's policies. This could range from failing an assignment or the unit of study, to exclusion from your course. If you are an international student, the risk is even greater, as your study visa may be affected.

Contract cheating services often target students in their native language and present themselves as providing a legitimate, honest service. They may advertise specialised exam tutoring support and guaranteed high results. Please know that these are not legitimate services and you will be found in breach of academic integrity if you engage with them to complete your assessments.

Advertising and providing contract cheating services is a criminal offence in Australia. Engaging with the companies undertaking this illegal activity can put you in danger of blackmail and identity theft, as well as potentially impacting your ability to graduate.

If you receive an email that could be from a contract cheating services provider, do not respond or engage with the sender or click any links to external sites. If you're not sure whether an email is real or fake, you can also report it through the ['Report Message' button in Outlook](#). You can also contact the University Shared Service Centre on 1800 SYD UNI (1800 793 864) or +61 2 8627 1444 or email ict.support@sydney.edu.au.

If you are unsure how to complete an assignment, talk to your tutors or professors. More [information about support services](#) and what to do if you see any signs of contract cheating is available on our website.

I wish you all the very best for your assessments and exams.

Kind regards,
Joanne

Professor Joanne Wright
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

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