Honor Council Hearing Activity
Loyola University Maryland
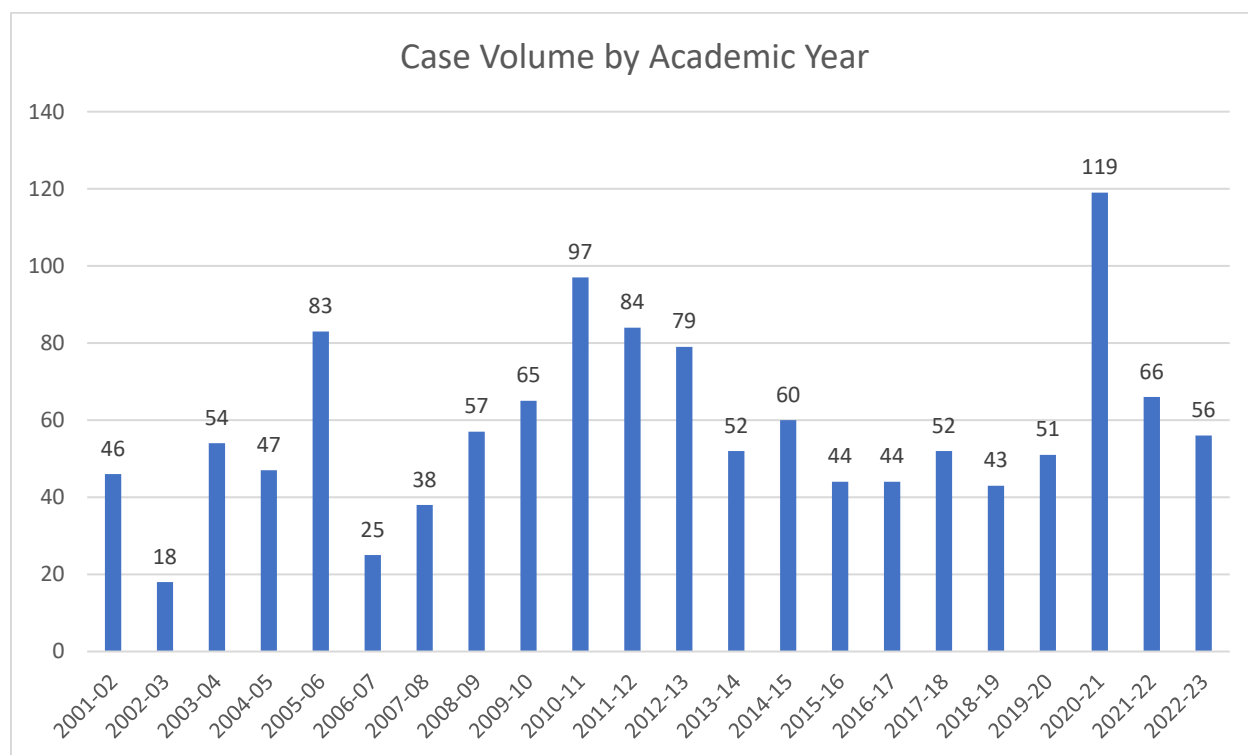**Annual Report: 2022-2023**

Cases Adjudicated, 2022-2023, as of 7/6/2023
56 completed hearings
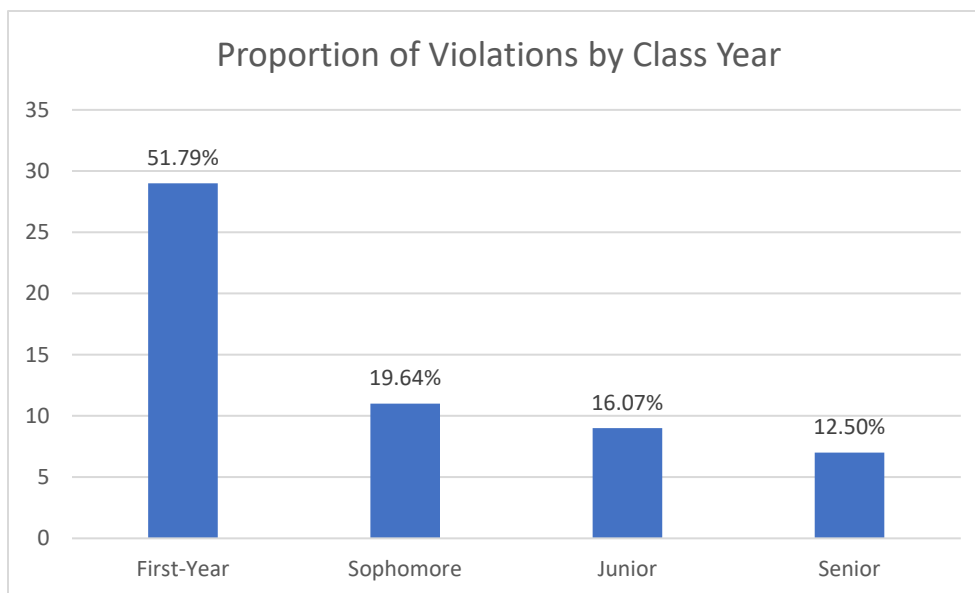   Of these, 4 were repeat violations
      55 were sanction hearings
      1 was a full hearing

Case Volume by Academic Year

As of 7/7/23, the Honor Council has adjudicated 56 cases during the 2022-2023 academic year, including summer. This number represents a return to a somewhat more "normal" number of cases: a significant decrease (-52%) in the number of cases compared to the all-time high of 119 cases in 2020-2021, but somewhat higher (16%) than the five-year average pre-pandemic levels (averaged between AY2015-2016 and AY2019-2020).

The Honor Council returned to its pre-pandemic practice of offering in-person hearings and pre-hearing advising meetings, but also allowed accused students to choose a Zoom format if desired.

Honor Code Violations by Class Year

Proportion of Violations by Class Year

First-Year: 51.79%
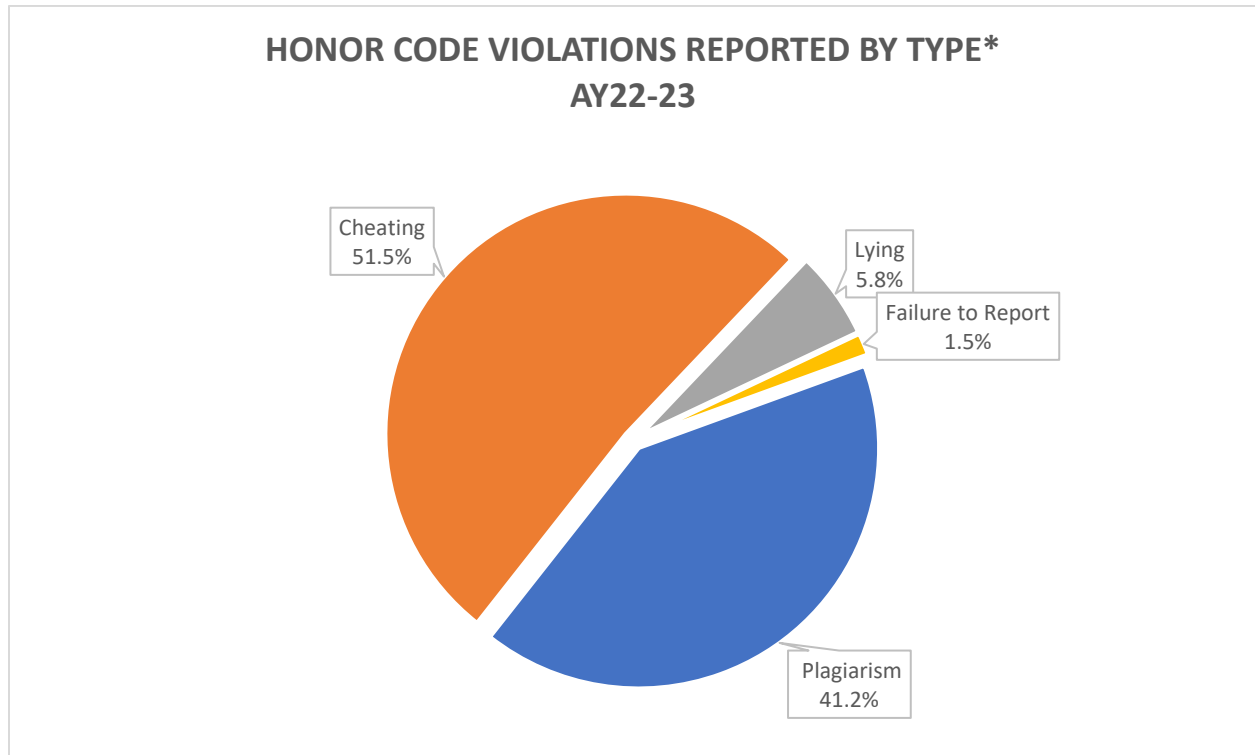Sophomore: 19.64%
Junior: 16.07%
Senior: 12.50%

This chart is based on the 56 honor council cases that resulted in a finding of "responsible" in the 2022-2023 academic year. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021, first-year students have held the highest representation of honor code violations. This 2022-2023 year, first-year students represent the highest proportion of cases by far, at 51.8%. This is the highest-recorded proportion of cases among the undergraduate population, going as far back as AY2005-2006. Pre-pandemic, first-year student violations over a five-year average (AY2015-2020) only represented 32% of the undergraduate cases.

We hypothesize that impacts of the pandemic, such as less-thorough preparation in high school, and perhaps harmful habits nurtured through learning in an all-online environment may have carried over into the college freshman year. The majority of cases since the pandemic continue not to be plagiarism, as typically observed pre-pandemic, but rather cheating.

The types of cheating reported is also evolving. In the Spring 2023 semester, the Honor Council received its first reports of unauthorized use of artificial intelligence in the completion of assignments. As of July 7, fifteen cases involving the use of artificial intelligence, most often through ChatGPT, were reported to the honor council. These were classified as either cheating, (involving the unauthorized use of assistance in the completion of an assignment), or plagiarism (passing off materials "written" by the AI tool as one's own).
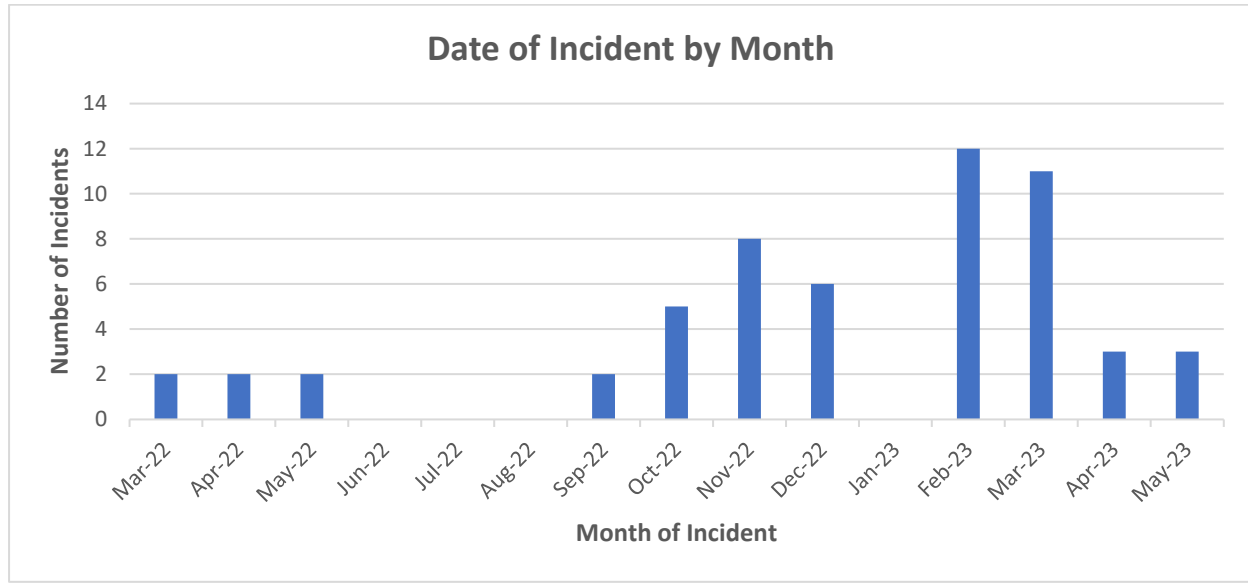
Types of Violations Adjudicated

HONOR CODE VIOLATIONS REPORTED BY TYPE*
AY22-23

Cheating
51.5%

Lying
5.8%

Failure to Report
1.5%

Plagiarism
41.2%

*A single report can contain multiple violations

Violation Adjudicated	Number of Incidents	Percent
Cheating	35	51.5
Plagiarism	28	41.2
Lying in an academic matter	4	5.8
Failure to report a violation	1	1.5
Total	68	100%

Among the 56 cases adjudicated during the 2022-2023 academic year, the most frequently reported violation was cheating, which was present in 51.5% of the incidents, followed by plagiarism, present in 41.2% of the reported incidents. (Note that a single case report may involve more than one type of violation).
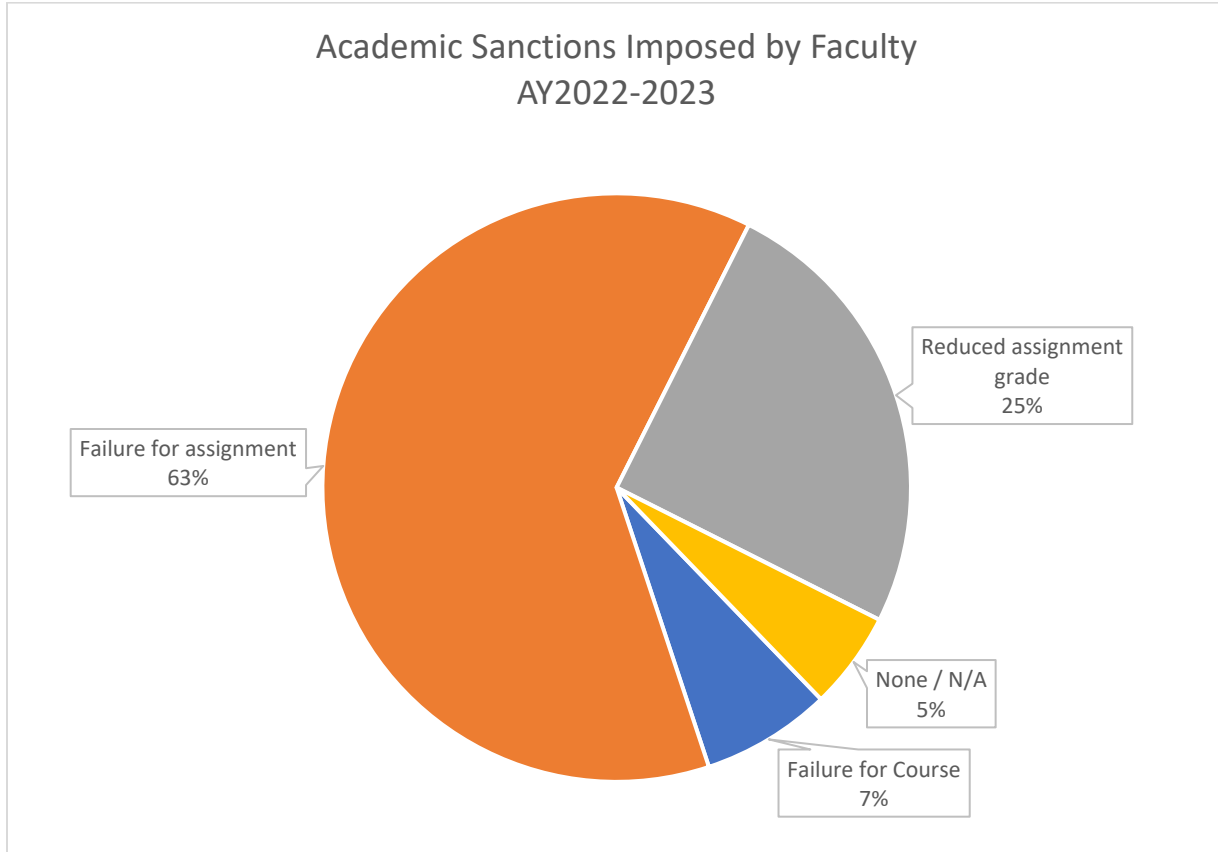
<u>Honor Code Violations by Month</u>

The above chart indicates the month during which each incident originally occurred, corresponding to the 56 cases adjudicated during the 2022-2023 academic year, through July 7. In the past, it was common to see an increase in cases during fall and spring exams, and perhaps during midterms. This year, we witnessed a jump in cases in the Spring 2023 semester. Again, this corresponded with new incoming reports during that time period of violations involving the use of AI in the completion of assignments.

It is common for a number of cases to "roll over" for adjudication to the next academic year. These cases usually occur toward the end of the spring semester. The Honor Council continued to conduct sanction hearings through summer 2023, but about 12 cases will need to be heard in the fall 2023 semester.

Academic Sanctions Imposed by Faculty

Academic Sanctions Imposed by Faculty
AY2022-2023

Reduced assignment grade 25%
Failure for assignment 63%
None / N/A 5%
Failure for Course 7%

Academic Sanctions Imposed by Faculty	Frequency	Percent
Zero / failure for the assignment / exam	35	63%
Reduced grade for assignment / exam (not zero)	14	25%
Failure for the course	4	7%
No academic sanction / N/A	3	5%
Total	56	100%

Honor Code violations can be reported by faculty, staff, administrators, and other students. Most are reported by teaching faculty, and academic sanctions usually accompany these reports. These sanctions are separate from any sanctions imposed by the Honor Council.

Outcomes of Hearings

The Honor Council adjudicated 1 of its 56 cases as a full hearing during the 2022-2023 academic year. The Council conducts a full hearing when a student contests an accusation by not accepting responsibility for the reported violation. In that case, the accused student was found "responsible" for an honor code violation.

Sanctions Imposed by Honor Council

Honor Council Sanction	Frequency	Percent
Reflection Paper	31	35.6%
Academic Integrity Seminar	17	19.5%
Deferred Academic Suspension	10	11.5%
Letter of Apology	10	11.5%
Consultation @ Writing Center	7	8.0%
No additional sanction	4	4.6%
Recommend Suspension	3	3.4%
Consultation @ Study	2	2.3%
Other consultation	2	2.3%
Other	1	1.1%
Total	87	100.0%

*A single case can receive multiple sanctions

Honor Council panels may impose sanctions in addition to the academic sanctions assigned by the accusing faculty member. Honor Council sanctions are primarily educative, with an aim to assist the student in realizing the impact of a violation on the greater community, and when appropriate, to provide appropriate referrals in an effort to prevent mistakes from occurring again. In instances of repeat or more egregious violations, however, more punitive measures are sometimes taken.

Violations Reported by Department

Academic Department	Frequency	Percent
Computer Science	12	21.4%
Biology	7	12.5%
Philosophy	6	10.7%
Information Systems, Law & Operations	4	7.1%
Political Science	4	7.1%
Theology	4	7.1%
English	3	5.4%
Forensic Studies	3	5.4%
Mathematics	3	5.4%
Writing	3	5.4%
Communication	2	3.6%
Modern Languages	2	3.6%
Engineering	1	1.8%
Non-Academic Department	1	1.8%
Psychology	1	1.8%
Total	56	100.0%

The majority of reported cases in the 2022-2023 academic year were from Computer Science and Biology. It should be noted, however, that *reported* cases may not be representative of the *actual* number of academic integrity violations that occur at the university. In some instances, some violations may go unreported because there may be a lack of available evidence. This may also explain why in the majority of cases that are reported, a student accepts responsibility for the reported violation.

The Honor Council is grateful to the faculty of the departments represented above for their time in preparing reports and their role in preserving academic integrity in the Loyola community.

Appendix A:
Honor Council Membership

<u>Co-Chairs</u>
Zachary Mazuchowski
Alexandria Munoz
Pierce Shearin

<u>Panel Members</u>
Avinash Ali
Caroline Arpin
Holden Ayd
Gianna Cavallaro
Christina DeSarno
Sophie Ernst
Matthew Gamerdinger
Alex Jackson
Melissa Jacob
Janae James
Juan Lopez
Blessy Mbaya
Grace O'Brien
Journie Orozco
Ruth Owusu
Maddie Petrucci
Mia Scollo
Amelia Silberger

<u>Panel Members</u> (continued)
Emma Siu
Caroline Smuts
Sophia Spedden
Jake Taylor
Stephen Tenaglia
Sophia Theodore
Grace Wayson

<u>Faculty Moderators</u>
Birgit Albrecht
Joseph Farrell
Fuat Gursozlu
Theresa Jefferson
Michael Knapp
Jeffrey Lating
Drew Leder
Christopher Thompson

<u>Administrative Moderator</u>
Mark Lee

<u>Graduate Assistant</u>
Tori Cain

End of Report