



15 April 2021

Dear Student

## **PREVENTION OF STUDENT MISCONDUCT IN ONLINE LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT**

The 2021 academic year has recently commenced against the backdrop of the continuing global COVID-19 pandemic and its disruptive effects on all areas of our lives.

The UP online learning platform, ClickUP, makes it possible for University of Pretoria (UP) students to continue their studies during the pandemic.

Online teaching and learning increase some risks, including the risk of academic dishonesty through digital plagiarism and the unauthorised sharing of work by students.

As a proud new or returning UP student, you are a brand ambassador of the University with a moral responsibility to yourself and the community to conduct your studies with honesty and integrity and to call out fellow students who engage in dishonesty.

It is important to realise that every instance of attempted fraud and academic dishonesty weakens the brand value of the degree the student aims to obtain and may have long-lasting repercussions for all our graduates' employability, not only for students who cheat.

UP students are strongly cautioned against taking shortcuts in their learning processes and committing academic fraud.

The University's information technology and forensic specialists use various advanced digital tools and data provided by third parties to detect such malpractices.

Strict anti-fraud and disciplinary measures, including exclusion from the University and revocation of degrees, where applicable, will continue to be applied for the 2021 academic year.

The University encourages students to familiarise themselves with the Disciplinary Code for Students, contained in the UP General Rules and Regulations (<https://www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/2021/rules-pdf>).

In terms of the UP Escalation Policy, allegations of academic misconduct are best directed to the relevant faculty for resolution (relevant Head of the Department, thereafter the Deputy Dean/Dean/Vice-Principal: Academic and where applicable, Legal Services).

If no resolution is reached, the matter may be referred for further investigation to the UP Department of Internal Audit and Compliance Services. The UP Ethics Hotline can be contacted 24/7 on 0800 227 007, [confidential@wisecall.eu.com](mailto:confidential@wisecall.eu.com) or [fraud@up.ac.za](mailto:fraud@up.ac.za) .

Kind regards



**Prof CMA Nicholson**  
**REGISTRAR**

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Office of the Registrar  
Kantoor van die Registrateur  
Ofisi ya Mmušakarolo