

The Honor Council and the Medical Student Honor Code



Tobi Dawodu, MS4 and Candi Nigh, MS2



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What is the Honor Council?

The Honor Council is an academic peer review committee elected by the student body whose sole responsibility is to ensure academic and ethical excellence

What is the Medical Student Honor Code?

The Medical Student Honor Code is a set of academic and ethical provisions that are expected of the student and enforced by the Honor Council, faculty and your fellow classmates



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Honor Council Members at the KC Campus:

M4: Tobi Dawodu, Andrea Jewell and Bradley Seaman

M3: Beverly Wilson, Shaundre Terrell and Peter Carter

M2: Candi Nigh, Kwame Gyasi and Cheen Alkhatib

M1: coming soon!



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The Honor Council

- Judicial body which upholds the medical student Honor Code and assigns consequences for infractions
- Two juror bodies: one jury body per campus (KC and Wichita) comprised of three peer-elected students from each class in KC and three per class in Wichita
- Each elected member serves until graduation
- The election for your M1 class will be held soon; details will follow in class.



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Motivation of the Honor Council and the Honor Code

As future physicians, we will be held to the highest level of ethics in the way we conduct our business and care for our patients, so it is imperative that we instill these standards from day one...



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The Honor Code

What constitutes a violation?

1. Represent the work of another as the student's own work
2. Give, receive or otherwise utilize unauthorized assistance in connection with any academic work/examination
3. Provide incorrect information to another person about any matter with the intent that another student's academic performance be harmed as a result



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The Honor Code

What constitutes a violation?

4. Obstruct the attempts of another student to engage in academic activities with the intent that the other student's academic performance be harmed as a result
5. Place anyone at increased risk of injury or disease while the student is engaged in activities directly connected with patient care or academic activities
6. Make a material misrepresentation of the student's class rank, grade point average, or any other academic achievement or endeavor



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The Honor Code

What constitutes a violation?

7. Without prior authorization from the patient, disclose information about a patient, along with information suggesting the identity of that patient, to a person who is not, at the time of the disclosure, a member of the patient's health care team
8. Make a false report of an Honor Code violation
9. Obstruct the investigation or prosecution of an alleged Honor Code violation, including, but not limited to, giving false information or testimony to the Honor Council, or any person connected with the prosecution of an Honor Code violation, or destroying, hiding, or fabricating evidence in an Honor Council proceeding



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Procedure for Reporting an Honor Code Violation

Any person who, in good faith, believes that an Honor Code violation may have been committed shall make a complaint to a member of the Honor Council, the Dean of Student Services, or the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. The complaint may be made orally or in writing and shall consist of the following:

- 1) The complaining person's name
- 2) The identity of the person he/she believes committed an Honor Code violation
- 3) A brief description of the facts supporting the complaining person's belief



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What are your responsibilities as medical students?

- 1) Comply with and uphold the medical student honor code
- 2) Report all blatant and suspected violations to a member of the Honor Council, the Dean of Student Services, or the Associate Dean for Student Affairs



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Judicial Procedures

- ***Investigation*** to gather testimony from the accuser, the accused, possible witnesses from the incident, and necessary character witnesses for both the accuser and accused
- Initially the Honor Council convenes to assess the investigation materials and determine if a hearing is necessary
- ***Formal hearing*** in which the accuser and accused present their cases to a mandatory quorum of five jurors (not including the chairperson), followed by a verdict
- ***Burden of proof*** criteria for decision; meaning that there must be clear and convincing evidence of guilt
- ***Appealment process*** if necessary



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Examples of Punishments

- **Written reprimand**, to be placed in the student's permanent academic file
- **Academic probation** for one or more semesters, to be determined by the Honor Council
- **Referral** to Academic Committee for recommendation of disciplinary action
- **Suspension** for one or more semesters, to be determined by the Honor Council.
- **Dismissal**



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Upcoming Events

- At the White Coat Ceremony, you all will sign your names to the Honor Code
- The election for representatives from your class will be in a few weeks!!!



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Web Address for Honor Council and Honor Code Information

Contact us with questions:

odawodu@kumc.edu

cnigh@kumc.edu

Read the Honor Code:

<http://www.kumc.edu/som/medsos/hc.html>

Remember...

*Elections for your M1 class will be held soon, watch
for details via email and in class.*