**Plagiarism and Cheating**

Western Carolina University, as a community of scholarship, is also a community of honor. Faculty, staff, administrators and students work together to achieve the highest standards of honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense at Western Carolina University because it threatens the quality of scholarship and defrauds those whodepend on knowledge and integrity. Academic dishonesty includes:

1. **Cheating** – Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
2. **Fabrication** – Intentional falsification of information or citation in an academic exercise.
3. **Plagiarism** – Intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of someone else as one’s own in an academic exercise.
4. **Facilitation of Academic Dishonesty** – Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help someone else to commit an act of academic dishonesty, such as knowingly allowing another to copy information during an examination or other academic exercise.

Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate sanction or sanctions for academic dishonesty within their courses up to and including a final grade of “F” in the course. Within 5 calendar days of the event the instructor will inform Program Director and Stage & Screen Department Head in writing of the academic dishonesty charge and sanction.

Refer to <http://catalog.wcu.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=143#honestypolicy>. Follow link to Academic Dishonesty Policy.

**Probation**

1. If your overall GPA is below 2.5, you will be placed on probation. Such students will receive notification of probation in writing, a copy of which will be place in your advising folder. If at the end of that period the issue is resolved, student will return to good standing. If the issue is has not been resolved, the student will face dismissal from the program. Student may request in writing an additional semester to resolve the issue. Faculty will determine if that request is granted, based on the criteria listed below.
	1. Likelihood of achieving a 2.5 in one semester.
	2. Student’s demonstrated effort in current classes.
	3. Student’s overall performance in the program.
2. Probation may be imposed for other infractions not deemed of the level for dismissal (see Student Code of Conduct).
3. Students offered probation must sign a probation agreement which will go in their record.
4. Students should understand that artistic merit is an important attribute of any professional. Therefore, a student’s artistic promise may be taken into consideration in any decision regarding probation and dismissal.

**Dismissal**

1. A history of academic probation (two semesters or more) is grounds for dismissal. Such students may request an opportunity to prove their academic commitment to the program.
2. Infractions of the Student Code of Conduct, in addition to any penalties imposed by the University, could lead to dismissal from the Theatre program.
3. Any other disciplinary actions during the academic year may be grounds for dismissal.

**Appeal process**

1. Students will be informed in writing of dismissal within one week of their interview. Reasons justifying the appeal must be stated in this document. The faculty will then advise the student and help facilitate enrollment in another major.
2. Students may submit a written statement to Program Director and Department Head stating reasons why they should remain in the program. Once an appeal has been submitted:
	1. The faculty must meet to consider the appeal
	2. If appeal is accepted, the student may still be put on probation.
	3. If the appeal is denied, the student may appeal to the Department Head.
	4. The Department Head may ask the faculty to reconsider the appeal. Faculty shall then meet with the Department Head to discuss the appeal. Faculty will then vote on appeal, and the faculty’s decision shall be final and binding.