

Academic misconduct for current Postgraduate Research students

The AMO for your School will decide if your work should be investigated for academic misconduct, and at what level.

Where relevant, your case may also be reviewed using the Research Misconduct Policy.

Your viva will still take place when academic misconduct is suspected, unless there is enough notice to postpone it while an investigation happens.

Before thesis submission

Minor concerns

AMO or University Board

You will get **5 working days' notice** in advance of the Board hearing.

Sanctions:

You will receive your outcome letter **within 5 working days** of your hearing.

Written warning + work to correct your mistakes

Serious concerns

University Board

You will get **5 working days' notice** in advance of the hearing.

Sanctions:

You will receive your outcome letter **within 5 working days** of your hearing.

Written warning + corrective work

Written warning + only allowed to complete a lower award

Studies terminated

After thesis submission

Minor issues

University Board

You will get **5 working days' notice** in advance of the hearing.

Sanctions:

You will receive your outcome letter **within 5 working days** of your hearing.

Rewrite parts of your thesis within 3 months, and retake Good Academic Practice and Research Integrity modules before graduation

Some issues, but still an original thesis

University Board

You will get **5 working days' notice** in advance of the hearing.

Sanctions:

You will receive your outcome letter **within 5 working days** of your hearing.

Rewrite within 6 months, pay resubmission fee, misconduct goes on record, and retake Good Academic Practice and Research Integrity modules before graduation

Serious issues, not original enough for a PhD

University Board

You will get **5 working days' notice** in advance of the hearing.

Sanctions:

You will receive your outcome letter **within 5 working days** of your hearing.

Make edits, only allowed to graduate with MPhil, pay resubmission fee, retake Good Academic Practice and Research Integrity modules, misconduct goes on record, can't take additional degrees at St Andrews

Extremely serious issues, very little original work

University Board

You will get **5 working days' notice** in advance of the hearing.

Sanctions:

You will receive your outcome letter **within 5 working days** of your hearing.

Thesis rejected, no degree given, misconduct goes on record, can't take additional degrees at St Andrews

Please note that if you have extenuating circumstances, they won't prevent you from receiving a sanction, but the AMO/Board may decide to give a lighter sanction

You can appeal if you have grounds, please refer to our Appeals process information, and contact helphub@