**Academic Honor Code for Biological Sciences First Year Seminar on Research Ethics**

**Section 1: Statement of Purpose**

The fundamental objective of this course is to provide students with a high quality education while developing their sense of ethics and social responsibility. Any instance of dishonesty hurts the entire community. It is with this in mind that the professors have set forth an Academic Honor Code for this class.

**Section 2: Objectives**

An Honor Code aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity and honor. It specifically aims to accomplish the following:

* Ensure that students and professors understand that the responsibility for upholding academic honesty lies with them;
* Prevent any students from gaining an unfair advantage over other students through academic misconduct;
* Ensure that students understand that academic dishonesty is a violation of the profound trust of the entire academic community.

**Section 3: Student Responsibilities**

The immediate objective of an Academic Honor Code is to prevent any students from gaining an unfair advantage over other students through academic misconduct. Academic misconduct is any act that does or could improperly distort student grades or other student academic records. Such acts include but need not be limited to the following:

* Possessing, using or exchanging improperly acquired written or verbal information in the preparation of any essay, report, examination, or other assignment included in an academic course;
* Substitution for, or unauthorized collaboration with, a student in the commission of academic requirements;
* Submission of material that is wholly or substantially identical to that created or published by another person or persons, without adequate credit notations indicating authorship (plagiarism);
* False claims of performance or work that has been submitted by the claimant.

While these acts constitute assured instances of academic misconduct, other acts of academic misconduct may be defined by the professors.

Each student in this class must sign an Honor Agreement affirming their commitment to uphold this Honor Code. This Honor Agreement may reappear on assignments to remind students of their responsibilities under this Academic Honor Code.

**Section 4: Faculty Responsibilities**

The professors are expected to create an environment where honesty flourishes. In creating this environment, the professors are expected to do the following:

* Make known to the class as specifically as possible what constitutes appropriate academic conduct as well as what comprises academic misconduct. This includes but is not limited to the use of previously submitted work, collaborative work on homework, etc.
* Include a paragraph containing their academic integrity policy on the course syllabus.

The professors are also expected to provide clarification to any student questions concerning any of the above.

**Agreement**

I understand that this journal entry falls under the course’s Academic Honor Code.

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Journal Entry #X

A Descriptive and Meaningful Title

By Your Name

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