INTEGRATING ACADEMIC INTEGRITY INTO A MASTERS PREPARATION PROGRAMME

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In this session, the presenters will describe their approach to integrating academic integrity into a new Masters’ preparation programme at Nazarbayev University. One of the challenges of teaching and learning at an international university such as NU is the diversity of educational backgrounds among students and faculty. Therefore, it is important to avoid making assumptions about shared experiences and expectations. This can be particularly problematic around issues of academic integrity. To counter this, the presenters embedded an exploration of academic integrity into their Academic English courses. Academic integrity was approached through the theme of Ethics. Students analysed a range of ethical systems, considered the role of ethics in industry, investigated academic integrity policies and applied research ethics guidelines to various case studies. Academic integrity was examined from different perspectives in the Academic English Courses. In Academic Reading, students conducted a text analysis on NU’s policies before engaging in a comparative analysis of equivalent policies from other universities. In Academic Communications, students discussed the merits of a range of institutional responses to academic misconduct. In Academic Writing, students focused on the mechanics of avoiding plagiarism by learning to paraphrase, cite and reference. Students also learnt to use electronic tools such as Turnitin. After this session, attendees will have a better understanding of how to integrate academic integrity into university programmes and can consider how this might be applied in their context.