

Hamilton College

**Points System
and the Honor
Court**

for Dummies

Common ways to get points:

Here is the official list of the most campus violations and their associated point values:

Violation:	Point Range		
Open container of alcohol	1	Violation of bulk alcohol policy	2-6
Possession of alcohol under 21	1	Failure to leave building during fire alarm	3
Excessive noise	1-2	Weapons policy violation	6-10
Violation of smoking policy	1-2	Theft	4-10
Intentionally serving alcohol to minors	1-3	*Intentional or reckless destruction of college or private property	4-10
Failure to comply with a college official (including Campus Safety Officers)	1-4	Disabling a smoke detector	6
Disruptive behavior (on or off-campus)	1-8	Discharge of fire extinguisher	6-8
Lewd or indecent behavior	1-6	Hazing	6-10
Marijuana use and/or possession	2	Altering/falsifying college documents	6-10
False identification	2-4	Physical violence	6-10
Possession of drug paraphernalia	2-4	Illegal drug use and/or possession (not marijuana)	8-10
Streaking	2-6	Driving under the influence	10
		Distribution of illegal/controlled substances	10

How do points get assigned?

Low point violation:

If it is a low point violation, you will receive an email from Ashley Place stating the violation and the points that you will be receiving.

If you agree with the details of the violation, then this is all that happens.

If the details are wrong, or you feel you have been wrongfully punished, you may set up a meeting with Ashley Place and a student on the judicial board. The three of you will meet and discuss the violation and determine a fair amount of points.

High point violation:

If it is a high point violation, you will receive an email for a judicial board hearing. This will be a full (~4 hour) hearing with opening statements, testimonies, and ultimately a decision from the judicial board as to how many points you will be receiving. You are allowed a faculty advisor to go with you, as well as the opportunity to plead your case.

Important facts to know:

ALL FIRST-YEAR HOUSING IS SUBSTANCE FREE

This means that the consequences for violations will be more severe and more points will be awarded.

POINTS ARE CUMULATIVE

This means that points will add up and if you are a repeat offender, your subsequent punishments will be more severe than the first time you received points.



Photo by Tatiana Bradley '19

I got points...what does this mean?

There are three major point accumulations that require action.
Less than 4 points does not require any action.

4 points:

Parent(s) or guardian, faculty advisor, and coaches are all notified of the violation(s).

6 points:

You will be put on disciplinary probation which means:

- you are not allowed to study abroad
- your general housing lottery number will have 50 added to it
- you may not be pulled or pull other students for housing

10 or more points

You will be separated from Hamilton for a period of time which is determined by the judicial board.

What about in the long run?

Due to a policy called “Point Forgiveness”, the college removes some points after a given period of time so that you will not have to keep them for the rest of your college experience.

Six months after the date you received points, two of your points will be taken away or “forgiven” (as long as you have no additional violations during this time period)



Photo by Tatiana Bradley '19

What is the honor court?

Procedures

- If the student admits to the violation and has no disagreement, or if it is the student's first violation, it will be an administrative hearing (just the dean and the Honor Court chair)
- If the violation warrants a full hearing, the student must bring relevant witnesses and an advisor (another student or faculty member not connected to the complaint)
 - there will opening statements, the court will question all witnesses, the student will testify and then closing statements will be made. This closes the hearing and then the Court deliberates and arrives at a sanction.

Quick Facts

- The honor court is made up of ten voting members and one non-voting student chair as well as Dean McKee (who does not vote)
 - Voting members: seven students and three faculty members
- It deals with violations of the honor code (academic dishonesty)



Photo by Tatiana Bradley '19



Violations and Sanctions

Violations

- Plagiarism
- Tampering in any way with the form or content of digital media that is created or presented by another person
- Forgery or falsification of academic documents
- Misrepresentation or falsification of data in any coursework
- Collaborative effort in coursework without acknowledgement and explicit permission of the instructor
- Cheating on assessments
- Submitting someone else's work as your own

Sanctions

- First violations require the student to complete a tutorial on academic integrity (if not completed within 30 days, the student may not register for classes or graduate)
- In addition to the tutorial you can get one of the following:
 - record will be kept of the violation and hearing until one year after graduation
 - the student is removed from the course and a record is kept until one year after graduation
 - the student is removed from the course and receives an "XF*" on their transcript which denotes removal for academic dishonesty (weighted as an F and can be replaced after two years or before graduation)
 - suspension from the college for a length of time and this will be recorded on your transcript because of academic dishonesty
 - second violations will receive a permanent XF* and have the notation "expulsion for academic dishonesty"
 - community service or other sanctions can be added if appropriate

Important People to Be Familiar With

Dean McKee, Honor Court



Frank Coots, Campus Safety



Jeff Landry, Deans Office



Ashley Place, Residential Life



Photos from hamilton.edu

Hamilton College: Most Common Points Violations

Up to 2 points:

- Open container of alcohol
- Possession of alcohol under 21
- Excessive noise
- Violation of smoking policy
- Marijuana use/possession

Up to 6 points:

- Lewd or indecent behavior
- Streaking
- Violation of bulk alcohol policy
- Disabling a smoke detector

Up to 8 points:

- Disruptive behavior (on or off campus)
- Discharge of a fire extinguisher

Up to 4 points:

- False identification
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- Failure to leave building during fire alarm
- Failure to comply with a college official (including Campus safety officers)
- Intentionally serving alcohol to minors
- Fire safety violations (including possession of an unlit candle)

Up to 10 points:

- Violation of weapons policy
- Theft
- Intentional or reckless destruction of Campus Property
- Hazing
- Altering/falsifying college documents
- Physical violence
- Illegal drug use/possession (not marijuana)
- Driving under the influence
- Distribution of illegal/controlled substances

Things to Know:

- Points are cumulative
- Higher point values may be assigned for repeat offenses
- 2 points are forgiven every 6 months from the date of the violation
 - If more points are received during this period, no points are forgiven at the 6-month mark

Points Repercussions

- At 4 points:

- Parent(s) or guardian, faculty advisor and coach will be notified of the infraction(s).

- At 6 points:

- Placed on a status of disciplinary probation.
- Prohibited from studying abroad.
- Penalized in the housing lottery (50 is added to their lottery number for the general lottery, with a proportionally smaller number added for smaller lotteries. Students on probation may not be pulled or pull other students).

- At 10 or more points:

- Separated from the College for a period of time to be determined by the judicial board or hearing officer.

If you or someone you know has experienced sexual assault or misconduct, and accessed the help and support needed, you might consider **reporting**

Here are some things to know:

You can report **any time**

You can report **anonymously**

Reporting **does not obligate** you to begin an investigation

Reporting Options

Anonymous

The Reach Out App

- Look in the App Store for "Reach Out Editions"
- Select U.S. Colleges and Universities
- Search "Hamilton College"
- Select the "Reporting Anonymously" Tab
- Click the "Title IX Coordinator Tab"
- In small font near the director's contact info, click the "Send Anonymous Message" tab



Not anonymous

Send a report via email

You can reach out to Title IX Directors via email:

- **Cori Smith** (cmsmith@hamilton.edu)
- **Catherine Berryman** (cberryman@hamilton.edu)

Reporting to them does **not** mean that you have to start an investigation, but they may be required to take action in some cases

Reach out to a professor, RA, or coach that you know and trust

Faculty, Staff, ResLife, and Coaches are required to report incidents of Sexual Misconduct

They can relay information about your incident to the Title IX Office if you do not feel comfortable reaching out

Reporting to the Police:

If you want to report the incident to the police, you can reach out to Campus Safety, Cori Smith, or Catherine Berryman to organize a meeting with the State Police or County Sheriff. Filing a report with the police does **not** mean you have to take legal action, but will create a record of the incident.

Remember: Reporting \neq Investigation.
It can be done anonymously, any time.

The Title IX process is different for everyone. Whether or not you chose to begin an investigation, reporting can help keep you, and the greater Hamilton community, safe.

TAKE HOME EXAMS ARE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE HONOR CODE



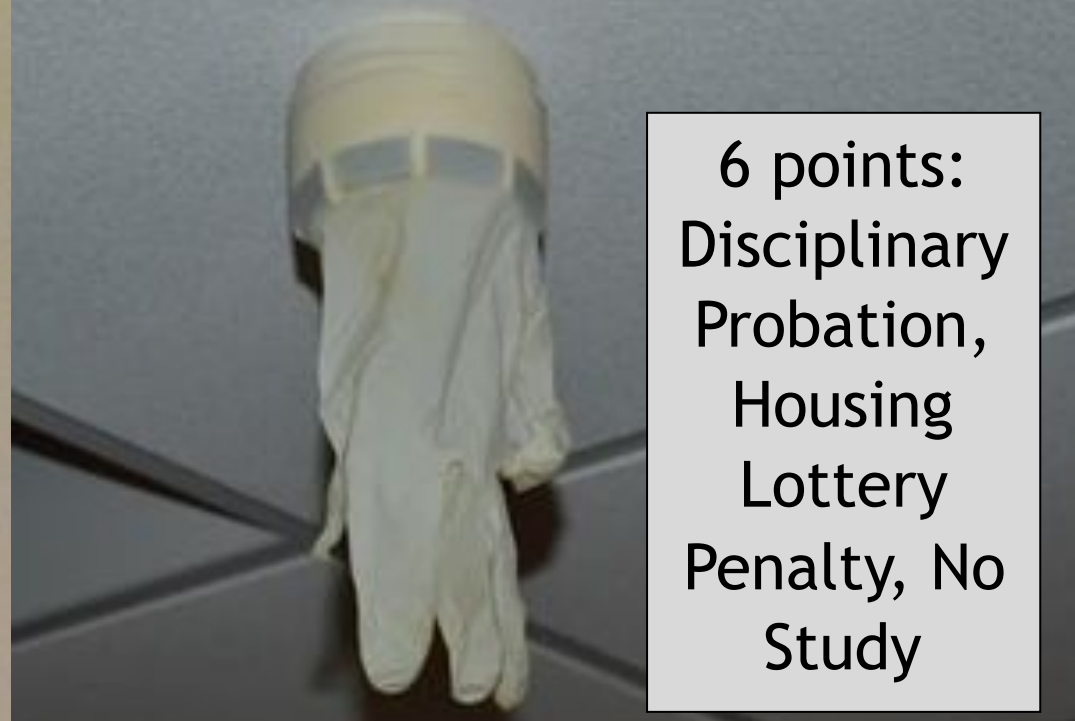
**DON'T RUIN IT FOR
EVERYONE ELSE**

**YOU CAN'T CUT
CORNERS IN THE
OPERATING ROOM**



**FOLLOW THE
HONOR CODE**

Disabling a Smoke Detector Always Results in 6 points



6 points:
Disciplinary
Probation,
Housing
Lottery
Penalty, No
Study



Is it really worth 4 points?



Having a candle
in your dorm
room, even if it's
unlit, is a fire
code violation
worth at least 4