



IUPUI

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

IUPUI School of Science Policy on Technology and Devices in Testing Situations

Approved by Science Faculty Steering Committee April 2nd, 2019

Rationale

It is important to maintain the integrity of our teaching and learning standards for the benefit of our faculty, our students, and our reputation. Technology (both software and hardware such as phones and smart watches) that can help students cheat is increasingly available to our students. We have had multiple occurrences of individual and group cheating in our classes recently. Unfortunately, when faculty suspect cheating, it is often challenging to prove that a device was used to cheat because the messages are encrypted or a student has locked the device. We therefore suggest that the default SOS policy is that, unless the instructor states otherwise, no technology or devices may be present. This way, simply having the device will be against the rules and will give faculty a way to respond. Of course, faculty will decide what is best in their classroom using common sense – if, for example, a faculty member thinks that a student has simply made a mistake by having a device in a testing situation and has not cheated, then the faculty member can decide to take no action.

Mechanism

This would be a default rule and would be auto-populated into Canvas for all Science courses. That would put the protection into place for all students taking Science courses and then Science faculty can add any modifications that they need for their courses using their individual syllabi.

Policy

Unless stated otherwise by the instructor, cell phones, tablets, computers, smart/electronic/digital watches, or any other form of technology, are not allowed in any School of Science testing situation (tests, quizzes, exams, etc.) whether the technology is being used or not to obtain answers. Students must place all technology and devices (must be in silent mode or powered off) in their closed bags placed under their chair. Students observed with any technology device may face penalties including failure of the test/quiz/exam/course, and the incident may be formally reported to the Dean of Students.

Note: IUPUI Testing Centers do not allow any devices (including a standard watch) and instead provide students with lockers for all belongings - purse, keys, book bag, all electronics, regular watches, etc.