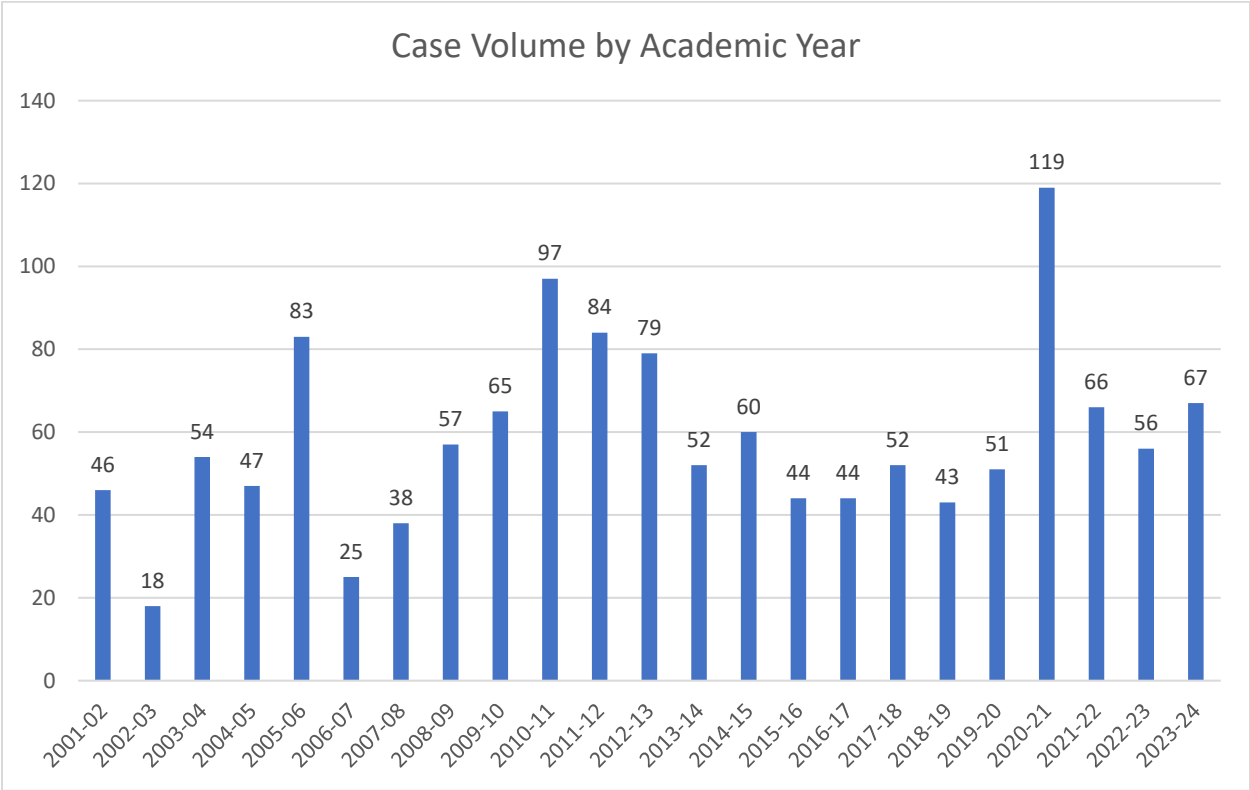


**Honor Council Hearing Activity  
Loyola University Maryland  
Annual Report: 2023-2024**

**Cases Adjudicated, 2023-2024 Academic Year**

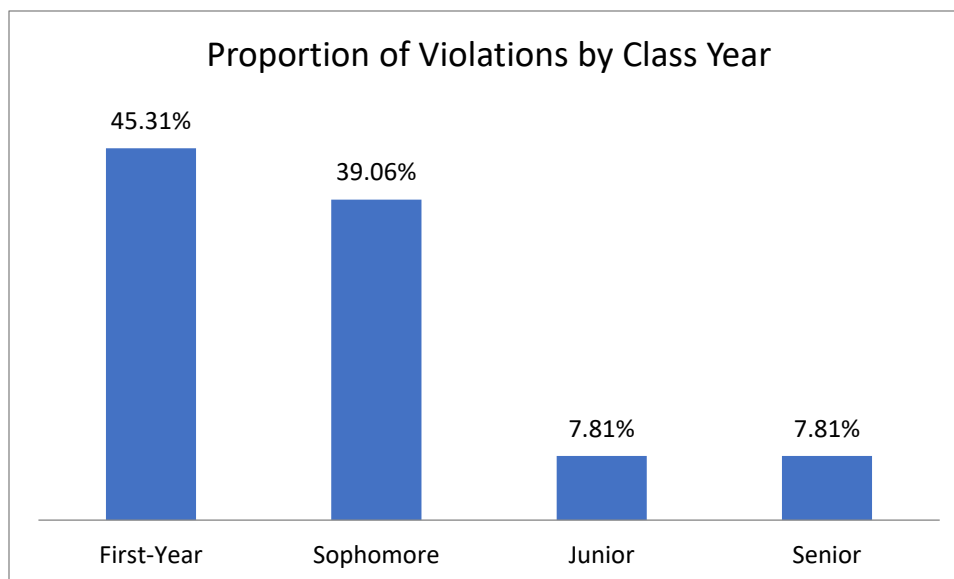
67 completed hearings  
Of these, 10 were repeat violations  
47 were sanction hearings  
20 were full hearings



The Honor Council adjudicated 67 cases during the 2023-2024 academic year, including the summer of 2024. While the overall number of cases represents an almost 20% increase over academic year 2022-2023, the total is closely similar to the 66 cases adjudicated the year prior. The Council had been bracing itself for a more significant increase in the number of cases due to greater availability of AI and AI tools such as ChatGPT and CoPilot. Even tools that had not been associated with AI in the past, such as Grammarly, have now integrated artificial intelligence in the assistance they provide.

The Council has begun to record the number of cases that involve alleged use of AI. Last year, 27% of the adjudicated cases had to do with AI use. This year, that proportion has risen to 52% of the cases.

### Honor Code Violations by Class Year



The chart above is based on the 64 honor council cases that resulted in a finding of “responsible” in the 2023-2024 academic year. First-year students continue to represent the highest proportion of cases at 45.3%. This year, however, the number of cases concerning juniors and seniors was more than halved, from 16% and 12.5% last year for juniors and seniors, respectively, to only 7.8% for each class this year. The number of cases involving sophomores, however, doubled to 39%.

It is difficult to make generalizations based on such a small sample size. For example, of the 25 sophomore cases that were adjudicated, ten were from one course.

The cases that involved AI this past academic year were all classified as cheating (involving the unauthorized use of assistance in the completion of an assignment), or plagiarism (passing off materials “written” by the AI tool as one’s own).

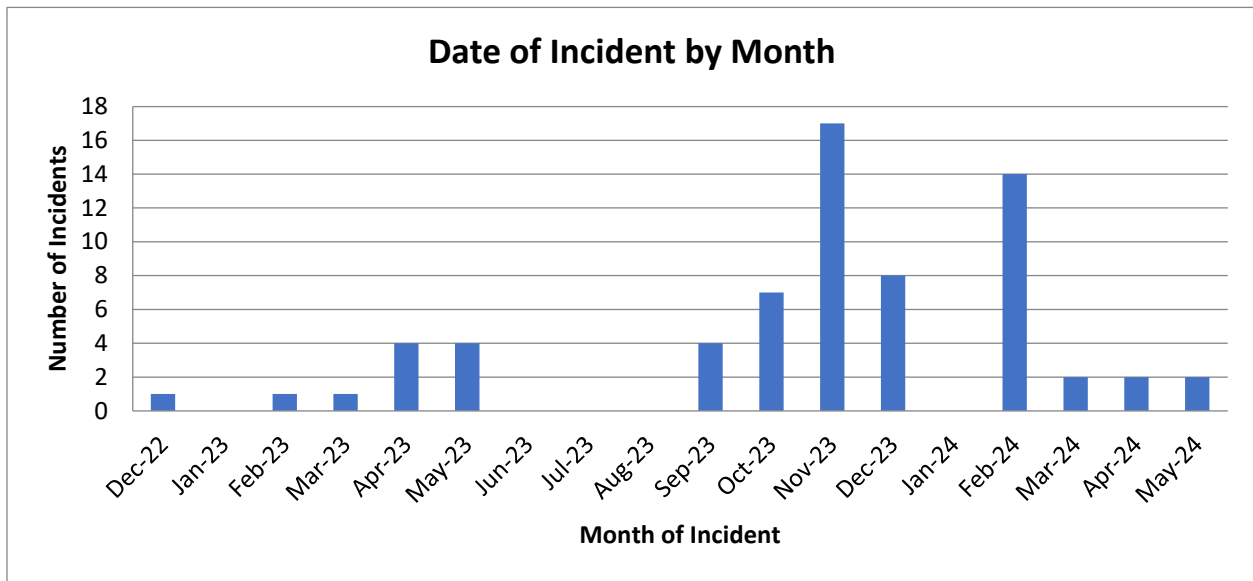
The Honor Council has integrated more discussion of the use of AI and the prevention of cheating in its presentations to first-year Messina classes and in the Academic Integrity Tutorial, which is required of all incoming undergraduate students.

## Types of Violations Adjudicated

Violation Adjudicated	Number of Violations	Percent	Proportion of Incidents
Cheating	47	53%	70%
Plagiarism	36	40%	54%
Duplicate Submission	2	2%	3%
Lying in an academic matter	2	2%	3%
Failure to Report	1	1%	1.5%
Stealing	1	1%	1.5%

Among the 67 cases adjudicated during the 2023-2024 academic year, the most frequently reported violation was cheating, which accounted for 53% of the total violations and was present in 70% of the incidents. Plagiarism was the second most common violation, making up 40% of the total and appearing in 54% of the incidents. The “Proportion of Incidents” column reflects how often each violation appeared across all cases. Note that a single case report may involve more than one type of violation.

## Honor Code Violations by Month



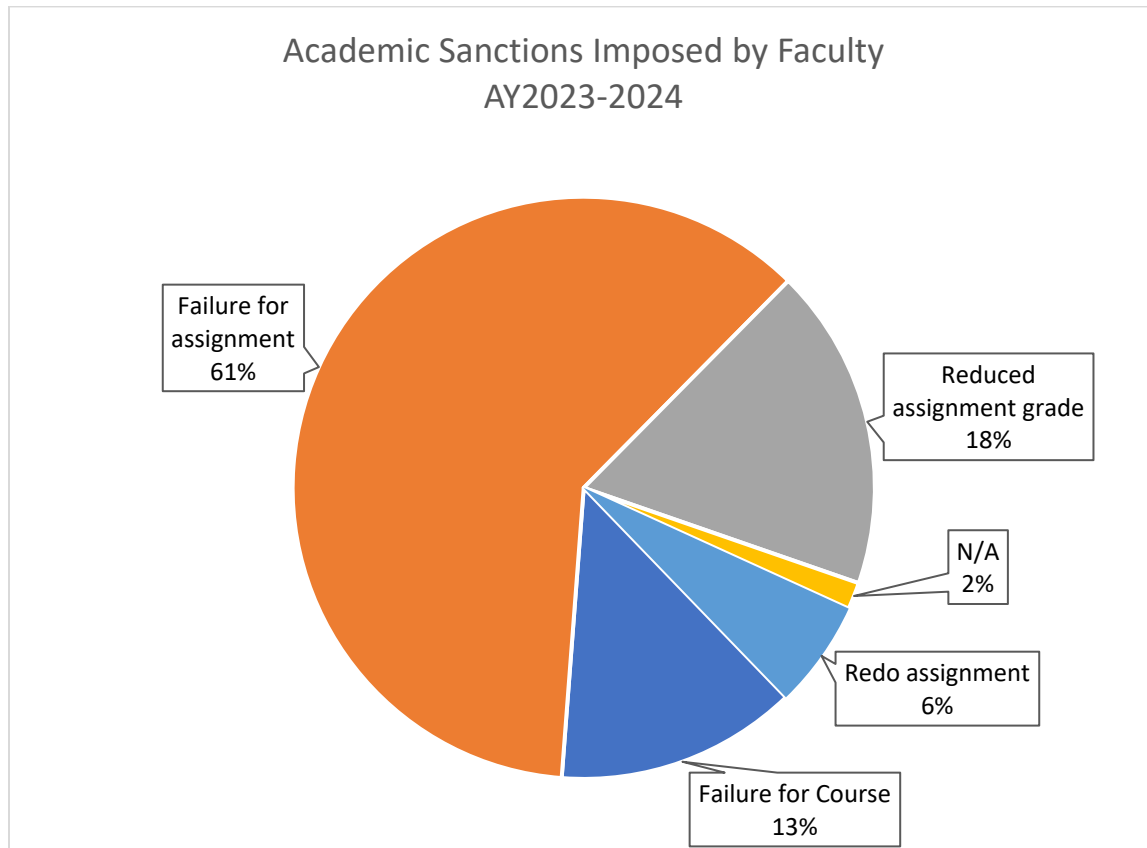
The chart above illustrates the month in which each reported incident originally occurred, corresponding to the 67 cases adjudicated during the 2023-2024 academic year. It is common to see an increase in reports during fall and spring exams, and perhaps during midterms. However, it is unusual that only two incident reports were submitted in May.

One hypothesis for this decrease could be a shift in how faculty are assessing student learning, reducing opportunities for academic dishonesty. For example, the use of more in-class versus

take-home exams and papers, or assignments developed iteratively, such as workshopped papers, may be contributing to fewer reports of violations.

On the other hand, it is also possible that faculty reporting is decreasing. Accusations related to improper use of AI, for example, are often more complex and less straightforward to identify than some other instances of plagiarism, such as copying a paragraph from a published source.

### **Academic Sanctions Imposed by Faculty**



Academic Sanctions Imposed by Faculty	Frequency	Percent
Zero / failure for the assignment / exam	41	61
Reduced grade for assignment / exam (not zero)	12	18
Failure for the course	9	13
Redo assignment	4	6
N/A	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100</b>

Honor Code violations can be reported by faculty, staff, administrators, and other students. Most are reported by teaching faculty, and academic sanctions usually accompany these reports. These sanctions are separate from any sanctions imposed by the Honor Council.

This year, two reports were submitted by the Honor Council itself which were not directly related to a course. Rather, these reports involved lying during hearing testimony and cheating / plagiarizing in a submitted written sanction.

### **Outcomes of Hearings**

The Honor Council adjudicated 20 of its 67 cases as full hearings during the 2023-2024 academic year. The Council conducts a full hearing when a student contests an accusation by not accepting responsibility for the reported violation. This number represented a significant increase in full hearings in the 2023-2024 academic year: only one was adjudicated the prior year, and seven in the 2021-2022 academic year. In three of the 20 cases, the accused student was found “not responsible” for an honor code violation.

### **Sanctions Imposed by Honor Council**

<b>Honor Council Sanction</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Proportion of Incidents</b>
Reflection Paper	40	37%	60%
Deferred Academic Suspension	16	15%	24%
Academic Integrity Seminar	10	9%	15%
Letter of Apology	10	9%	15%
Consultation @ Study	9	8%	13%
Consultation @ Writing Center	7	7%	10%
No additional sanction	6	6%	9%
Recommend Suspension	5	5%	7%
Other consultation	2	2%	3%
Academic Integrity Tutorial	1	1%	1.5%
Other	1	1%	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

\*A single case can receive multiple sanctions

Honor Council panels may impose sanctions in addition to the academic sanctions assigned by the accusing faculty member. These sanctions are primarily educative, aiming to help students understand the impact of their violation on the broader community, and when appropriate, providing appropriate referrals to prevent future mistakes. In cases of repeat or more egregious violations, however, more punitive measures are sometimes imposed.

The “Percent” column represents the percentage of the 107 total sanctions that fall under each category. The “Proportion of Incidents” column reflects the proportion of the 67 cases that received each sanction, with some cases receiving multiple sanctions from the Honor Council.

In the 2023-2024 academic year, the most frequently imposed sanction was a reflection paper. Of the 107 total sanctions imposed, 37% were reflection papers, which were assigned in 60% of the 67 cases. Other commonly assigned sanctions included deferred academic suspension (24% of cases) and participation in an academic integrity seminar (15% of cases).

### Violations Reported by Department

<b>Academic Department</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Computer Science	15	22.4
Philosophy	10	14.9
Theology	8	11.9
Biology	5	7.5
Modern Languages	4	6.0
History	3	4.5
Speech Language Pathology	3	4.5
Writing	3	4.5
English	2	3.0
Forensic Studies	2	3.0
Honor Council	2	3.0
Physics	2	3.0
Political Science	2	3.0
Accounting	1	1.5
Classics	1	1.5
Data Science	1	1.5
Education	1	1.5
Information Systems	1	1.5
Mathematics	1	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	

The majority of reported cases in the 2023-2024 academic year were from the departments of Computer Science, Philosophy, and Theology, which collectively accounted for about half of all reports. It is important to note, however, that these figures may not reflect the actual number of academic integrity violations occurring at the university. For example, some violations may go unreported due to insufficient evidence or other factors.

The Honor Council is grateful to the faculty of the departments listed above for their efforts in preparing reports and their commitment to upholding academic integrity in the Loyola community.

**Appendix A:  
Honor Council Membership**Panel Members

Bella Altadonna  
Christina DeSarno  
Markus Dudley  
Sophie Ernst  
Matthew Gamerdinger  
Sophia Graney  
Melissa Jacob  
Riley Jones  
Juan Lopez  
Abby MacLeod  
Jackson Martin  
Jacob Martin  
Jenna Mattern  
Ruth Owusu  
Maddie Petrucci  
Eva Reynolds  
Mia Scollo  
Angel Scott  
Mel Silberger  
Emma Siu  
Caroline Smuts

Jake Taylor  
Danika Trucchi  
Kayne Weir  
Tamit Weldeyesus

Faculty Moderators

Birgit Albrecht  
Joseph Farrell  
Fuat Gursozlu  
Gary Kapilevich  
Michael Knapp  
Dominic Micer  
Austin Parks  
Daniel Pinha  
Christopher Thompson

Administrative Moderator

Mark Lee

Graduate Assistant

Tori Cain

End of Report

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