

**Reference: FOI 25035****Details of the request:**

1. How many formal academic misconduct investigations into suspected cheating on essays/assignments have taken place at the university over the past three academic years? If possible, please break this down by year, and include type of misconduct, such as “suspected use of essay mills” / “suspected use of AI”
2. How many of the above involved international students?
3. On how many occasions were students penalised? Please break this down by year and by what type of misconduct where possible, such as “suspected use of essay mills” / “suspected use of AI”
4. Please name which course had the most students penalised across the three-year timeframe

**Summary**

LSBU is able to supply **all** of the information request.

**x**

The information (or links to the information if it is already published) set out below.

LSBU is able to supply **part** of the information requested.

The information (or links to the information if it is already published) set out below, together with the reason for the partial response.

LSBU is unable to supply any of the information requests.  
Reasons set out below.

**Details of our response:****Exemption:**

Exemption	Applied?	Rationale
Section 21 – information already reasonably accessible		
Section 22 – information intended for future publication		
Section 22A – research information		
Sections 30 and 31 – investigations and prejudice to law enforcement		
Section 40(2) – personal information		
Section 43 – trade secrets and prejudice to commercial interests		

**Response:**

1.

Academic Year	No. of AM	Type of AM
2024/25	95	Contract Cheating/AI = 9 Suspected Misuse of AI = 18 Plagiarism = 55 Collusion = 11 Fabrication of Data = 1 Self-plagiarism = 1
2023/24	81	Contract Cheating = 10 Contract Cheating/AI = 15 Plagiarism = 47 Collusion = 4 Plagiarism and Collusion = 2 Breach of Regulation/Fabrication of Data = 3
2022/23	256	Contract Cheating = 35 Contract Cheating/Misuse of AI = 3 Plagiarism = 159 Plagiarism/Collusion = 51 Collusion = 5 Fabrication of Data/Breach of Ethics = 3

2. Total = 116  
2024/25 = 42  
2023/24 = 26  
2022/23 = 48

3.

Academic Year	No. of Penalty	Type of AM
2024/25	74	Contract Cheating/AI = 3 Suspected Misuse of AI = 11 Plagiarism = 41 Collusion = 5 Fabrication of Data = 1 Self-plagiarism = 0
2023/24	67	Contract Cheating = 1 Contract Cheating/AI = 13 Plagiarism = 44 Collusion = 4 Plagiarism and Collusion = 2 Breach of Regulation/Fabrication of Data = 3
2022/23	204	Contract Cheating = 25 Contract Cheating/Misuse of AI = 1 Plagiarism = 127 Plagiarism/Collusion = 44 Collusion = 4 Fabrication of Data/Breach of Ethics = 3

4. Please note that we do not hold the data per course in the 2022/23 and 2023/24 academic years. For 2024/25, the highest number thus far is from BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science.

If you wish to request a review, please set out in writing your reasons and send it within 2 months of the date of this letter to the Group Chief People and Legal Officer, London South Bank University, 103 Borough Road, London, SE1 0AA. We will aim to carry out the review within 20 working days, or in exceptional circumstances within 40 working days.

If you are not satisfied with the review decision, you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner whose contact details can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>