

Posted by u/throwawayaccount666_ 1 year ago

Professor threatening failure to students who don't get on camera during a test.

I understand professors' fears of their students cheating on exams due to distance learning, I really do, but one of my professors is being super irrational with her approach to combatting cheating. She basically wants us to get on camera during the exam but that's not only ineffective but it's also a huge breach of privacy. Can a professor actually take action against students for not getting on camera? What if a student doesn't own a camera or doesn't want their family to appear on camera. Every other student can see what's happening on your end btw.

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TestAnnihilatorAshar 1 year ago
Which class is this for? Ik some students in my calc class didn't have the webcam and my teacher let them take the test without it

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throwawayaccount666_ 1 year ago
It's for a CS class. She did this on the first test as well but a lot of students didn't get on camera, but now she's saying (for all students but especially those) she'll consider not grading their tests if they don't get on camera. I have other professors that have been historically strict on cheating and they're not doing anything like this because they understand it's not practical.

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SoftInformation 1 year ago
As shitty as it might be, your professor might be able to force this if they give you sufficient time to prepare.

Most plans had to be okayed from the Dean, so the requirement has already been approved. Typically instructors can give exam in any fashion that they want (as long as it fits distance learning criteria's) and they give you sufficient time to prepare.

Again I think it's a super shitty thing to force, but if your question is CAN they fail you for not complying with the exam rules (which includes required video recording)? The answer is likely yes.

I would compare it to a teacher forcing all students to submit a video essay assignment, as long as all students have the right technology, it's "legal".

What if a student doesn't own a camera

CUNY has been offering laptop loaners for all students, which defeats this argument. If your professor announced that exams would be recorded and you don't have the right technology you should have requested a loaner during re-calibration period.

<https://www.cuny.edu/cuny-continuity/cuny-continuity-for-students/#queens>

or doesn't want their family to appear on camera

You're gonna have to embarrassed like the rest of us, when our moms interrupt our virtual classes with some fruit.

A lot of other students have it way worse honestly, being forced to use a lockdown browser which, prevents you from opening new tabs and also takes over your webcam.

I would email your professor regarding your concerns. If you want to fight this, privacy would be the angle I would take.

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Guarionex_ 1 year ago
If you don't have a camera or can't record yourself for a legitimate reason, then just email your prof. I'm sure she'll understand if your motives are valid.

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glamrosey 1 year ago
My best advice is to go to "chnge.org" and make a petition about this issue and have students sign it. I do feel it's a breach of privacy like say students don't feel like showing their home environment and that's their right. I feel that professors can get sued in this kind of case since it's your saying "if you don't do this, I won't grade your exam"

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ghost_of_anansi 1 year ago
Contact the Provost's office.

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Dant2k 1 year ago
Out of curiosity, what id you owned a computer thay cant handle off of that processing?

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Knhittel 1 year ago
A lot of online classes require you to be on camera for a test. It's to make sure you are not cheating and that it's actually you taking the test. I don't see why she couldn't fail you as long as you were given notice that this would be a requirement. If you are actually that uncomfortable with it, you may be able to postpone your test until it can be taken in person, but that would mean having to wait on a final grade. I'm not sure how this would be handled though since that is only done in extreme circumstances. You would probably have to have a REALLY good reason as to why you couldn't take the test on camera. I don't think simply saying your uncomfortable with it will cut it.

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throwawayaccount666_ 1 year ago
I don't think most professors would humor such a request during this crisis if that's even possible in the first place. It's pointless to enforce such a thing unless everyone has a flexible webcam or phone that's capable of being propped up on some kind of tripod/mount so that you, your hands, and computer screens are on camera. Otherwise, students will be able to cheat anyway.

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SoftInformation 1 year ago
Nothing is gonna be bulletproof,

That doesn't mean, they shouldn't even bother. Each additional security measure can be circumvented with enough preparation, but reduces the number of students who cheat by some factor because it's a lot more work. At some point it's easier to just study then cheat and this is what the instructors aim for.

Everyone take some amount of collateral damage in inconvenience, but it's made up for with a more honest curve. There's no worse feeling than being the only person performing poorly because everyone else cheated and ruined the curve.

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GoodLifeWorkHard 1 year ago
Who the fuck cares? Privacy right my ass. I've taken a math test where they required us to be on camera. No one cared.

-2 Give Award Share Report Save

throwawayaccount666_ 1 year ago
I care.

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GoodLifeWorkHard 1 year ago
Why do u actually care? Why does it violate ur right to privacy? U do know that no one is judging ur home environment they don't care enough during an exam.

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nygdan 1 year ago
Of course they can. People turn off the cameras in order to cheat. It's that simple, camera on or you're cheating and they'll fail you. It's not a privacy breach, you've decided to join the video session, you'd be in class in person too.

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throwawayaccount666_ 1 year ago
Well, people can easily cheat while on camera as well. Most people had just their faces on camera, god knows how many tabs they had open during the test. Hence why I said it's extremely ineffective.

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nygdan 1 year ago
So? I didnt say it was a great way to stop cheating.

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