

MMU ACADEMIC CENTER HONOR CODE*

More than anything else in the world, I wish to have integrity. More than money, more than prestige, more than power... I seek integrity. What is this thing I seek?

At its root, the word means unity or wholeness. An integer is a whole number – one that is not divided into fractions. To integrate is to blend all ingredients.

A person of integrity is whole – not lacking any ingredient. They have boldness to try and the compassion to comfort. Persons of integrity have the patience to wait and the persistence to keep on, and the poise to give in.

The person of integrity knows that honor is more important than honesty...that is, knows that honor means doing not only what s/he is legally obligated to do but also what s/he is morally required to do. Thus, the person of integrity has a highly developed conscience...and they listen to it, having the courage to act on their convictions.

The person of integrity, in other words, is obedient to the unenforceable. No one makes them choose a code of conduct that is a cut above the norm...the person does it anyway. No one makes them obey their conscience...the person does it anyway. No one makes them have love for himself or for others...they do it anyway.

That is the person that I seek to be, but am not yet, and may never fully be.



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*"Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your mind. Trust yourself. Every heart vibrates to that iron string."
Ralph Waldo Emerson*