

Contract Cheating/ Plagiarism: Case Study 1

I was struggling to keep up with my studies due to working commitments, and when this big coding assessment came up I panicked. Being an international student, I was not familiar with the referencing systems used in the UK, and I also had not made much effort to get involved with academic activities.

I decided to find someone else to write the programming code for me. There was a website I came across which allowed users to put in a request to professionals, who would do the work for a price and stick to deadline. I read reviews of these professionals just how you would with online shopping, and in that moment, I felt confident about my choice.

I was then accused of academic misconduct from my School. It turned out that this so-called professional had actually plagiarised the code I had paid them for. As I had not paid much attention in lectures, I didn't even bother to fully check the work before submitting. The code had even been used in a previous year's assessment. Myself as the cheater had now been cheated.

At first, I refused to accept that I had done something wrong, but after speaking with the Students' Union and my lecturers, I then understood the severity of my actions. I really want students to avoid using these online services, as you will get caught and your reputation damaged. You may even miss out on your degree. If you need help, just speak to someone or submit an extenuating circumstance claim. Things can seem overwhelming at first, but you limit your options if you cheat.