

## CMPSCI 377 Policy on Collaboration and Cheating

This all may sound pedantic or even harsh, but I have no sympathy for those that gain unfair advantages over their classmates and misrepresent themselves.

All projects in this course are to be done by you. Violation will result in a zero on the project in question, probable failure in the course, and initiation of the formal procedures of the University. We use an automated program and manual checks to correlate projects with each other and with prior solutions. At the same time, we encourage students to help each other learn the course material. As in most courses, there is a boundary separating these two situations. You may give or receive help on any of the concepts covered in lecture or discussion and on the specifics of language syntax. You are allowed to consult with other students in the current class to help you understand the project specification (i.e. the problem definition). However, you may not collaborate in any way when constructing your solution—the solution to the project must be generated by you working alone. You are not allowed to work out the programming details of the problems with anyone or to collaborate to the extent that your programs are identifiably similar. **You are not allowed to look at or in any way derive advantage from the existence of project specifications or solutions prepared elsewhere.** You may not use other people's test cases with your own program. You may not look at their code. You may not purchase solutions off the internet, or hire people to code your project.

If you have any questions as to what constitutes unacceptable collaboration, please talk to the instructor right away. You are expected to exercise reasonable precautions in protecting your own work. Don't let other students borrow your account or computer, don't leave your program in a publicly accessible directory, and take care when discarding printouts.

After this class has ended do not distribute your solution to anyone taking this class here, or anywhere else. As these projects take considerable effort to design, we reuse these projects from year to year. If we are forced to create new projects each year, they will invariably be much less refined, frustrating, and less educational than the current ones. Showing your solution to another student is considered *facilitating dishonesty* and **you** will be referred to the Academic Honesty Board. This can result in holding up your graduation, or having a notation put on your transcript.

Acts of cheating and plagiarism will be reported to the University Academic Honesty Board. You are responsible for knowing, and will be held to, the University Academic Honesty Policy. This policy is available online: **HYPERLINK** "[http://www.umass.edu/dean\\_students/code\\_conduct/acad\\_honest.htm](http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/code_conduct/acad_honest.htm)"

Discussion of course material is not considered cheating and is strongly encouraged. If you receive substantial help from another person you must acknowledge them in your work. If you use any published or unpublished source in any of your own work, you must give full citation. If you have questions about these policies please see the instructor.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_