CS100: Introduction to Programming
First-year undergraduate course for SIST students @ ShanghaiTech
Important message on plagiarism!

The single most important point for you to realize during the first year of your studies at ShanghaiTech is the meaning of "plagiarism":

Plagiarism is the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. It is the misrepresentation of the work of another as your own. It is academic theft; a serious infraction of a University honor code, and the latter is your responsibility to uphold. Instances of plagiarism or any other cheating will be reported to the university leadership, and will have serious consequences. Avoiding any form of plagiarism is in your own interest. If you plagiarize and it is unveiled at a later stage only, it will not only reflect badly on the university, but also on your image/career opportunities.

Plagiarism is academic misconduct, and we take it very serious at ShanghaiTech. In the past we have had lots of problems related to plagiarism especially with newly arriving students, so it is important to get this right upfront:

You may …
- … discuss with your peers about course material, and go over it together.
- … discuss generally about a/the programming language, some features, or <u>abstract</u> lines of code. As long as it is <u>not directly related to any homework</u>, but <u>formulated in a general, abstract way</u>, such discussion is acceptable.
- … do joint practice coding, as long as the code in question is <u>not directly related to any homework, but framed in a general abstract way</u>.
- … share test cases with each other.
- … help each other with setting up the development/build environment etc.
- … discuss the homework instructions to clarify what they mean (without discussing the solution!!)
- … search online to help identify solutions to your problem.

You may not …
- **… read, possess, copy or submit the homework solution code of anyone else** (including people outside this course or university)!
- **… receive direct help on homework from someone else** (i.e. a direct communication of some lines of code, no matter if it is visual, verbal, or written)!
- **… give direct help on homework to someone else.** Helping one of your peers by letting him read your code or communicating even just part of the solution in written or in verbal form will have equal consequences.
- … gain access to another one's homework related OJ/computer/online code repository account, no matter if with or without permission.
- … give your account access to another student. It is your responsibility to keep your account safe, always log out (even if it is only for short term), and choose a safe password. Do not just share access to your computer with other students without prior

lock-out and disabling of automatic login functionality. Do not just leave your computer on without a lock even if it is just for the sake of a 5-minute break.

- … work in teams. You may meet to discuss generally about the material, but any work on the homeworks is to be done individually and in privacy. Remember, you may not allow anyone to even just read your source code. Find a quiet corner where nobody can see your screen when you work on your homework.
- … just copy-paste a solution from an online webpage. It will most likely not do exactly what you want, and it increases the likelihood that your code will have strong similarities with someone else's code. You need to understand any code you submit, which likely means that you will have to fully understand and adapt any code you find online to your own needs.

With the Internet, "copy", "paste", and "share" are easy operations. Don't think that it is easy to hide and that we will not find you, we have just as easy to use, fully automatic and intelligent tools that will identify any potential cases of plagiarism. And do not think that being the original author will make any difference. Sharing an original solution with others is just as unethical as using someone else's work.