Academic Integrity

CSE Faculty Learning Community

September 24, 2019

1

Cheating Happens

Air Force Cheating Scandal Widens; 92 Nuclear Officers Linked

January 30, 2014 · 11:48 AM ET

https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2014/01/30/268880352/air-force-cheating-scandal-widens-to-92-nuclear-officers

2

Why do we care?

http://devhumor.com/media/googling-stuff-online-doesn-t-make-you-a-doctor

3

Outline

- Syllabus statements (CYA)
- Department process
- Last year's numbers
- Prevention & Detection
- Discussion of example cases
- Open discussion

4

Mandatory Syllabus Statements

- Faculty Senate requires:
  - Academic Honesty Policy (see Student Code of Conduct, Section B. Conduct - rules and Regulations, 1. Acts of Academic Dishonesty)
  - https://studentconduct.unl.edu/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20May%20Rev%202014%20a.pdf
- CSE requires:
  - A link to CSE's Academic Integrity Policy and a statement that it is required reading: http://cse.unl.edu/academic-integrity-policy. E.g., this statement:
    - All homework assignments, quizzes, exams, etc. must be your own work. No direct collaboration with fellow students, past or current, is allowed unless otherwise stated. The Computer Science & Engineering department has an Academic Integrity Policy. All students enrolled in any computer science course are bound by this policy. You are expected to read, understand, and follow this policy. Violations will be dealt with on a case by case basis and may result in a failing assignment or a failing grade for the course itself.

5

My syllabus statement (1)

- *Academic Integrity Policy*: Academic honesty is essential to the existence and integrity of an academic institution. The responsibility for maintaining that integrity is shared by all members of the academic community. The University's Student Code of Conduct addresses academic dishonesty. Students who commit acts of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and are granted due process and the right to appeal any decision. See `https://stuafs.unl.edu/DeanofStudents/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20May%20Rev%202014%20a.pdf`.

  All homework assignments, exams, etc. must be your own work. The Computer Science and Engineering department has an Academic Integrity Policy. All students enrolled in any CSE course are bound by this policy. You are expected to read, understand, and follow this policy. Violations will be dealt with on a case by case basis and may result in a failing assignment or a failing grade for the course itself. See `http://cse.unl.edu/ugrad/resources/academic_integrity.php`.

6

My syllabus statement (2)

The Department requires me to report every offense to the Chair for further consideration. The key to avoiding cheating is to be totally open and transparent about any and all collaborations, noting that appropriate teamwork and collaboration will be highly encouraged. Here is some elaboration on the examples listed on the department's academic integrity webpage:

- I encourage discussions of *what* and *why*, but discussions of specific solutions or implementations are prohibited.
- Being in possession of a worked or partially-worked solution to an assignment (whether from a fellow student, from the internet, or from another source) before you have completed the assignment is unauthorized collaboration on the assignment.
- If another student has a copy of your worked solution to an assignment before s/he has completed the assignment, I will assume that you facilitated their cheating unless it can be demonstrated that they obtained the copy despite your reasonable precautions to prevent them from doing so. Students who share a computer should protect their files either by using separate accounts or by placing their coursework in password-protected folders.
- If we detect academic misconduct on group assignments, I will hold the full group responsible unless there is compelling evidence that only a proper subset of the group committed the misconduct and that the remainder of the group was unaware of the misconduct.

We will use software, including but not limited to MOSS, to help us detect academic integrity violations; however, we will also apply human judgement. We will retain your assignment submissions to be compared with future students' submissions.

Outline

- Syllabus statements (CYA)
- **Department process**
- Last year's numbers
- Prevention & Detection
- Discussion of example cases
- Open discussion

8

Department Policy

- https://cse.unl.edu/academic-integrity-policy

9

Process

1. Detect (discussion later)
2. Collect evidence – strength of evidence is up to you
3. Submit report
   - Optional form: https://studentconduct.unl.edu/forms/Academic%20Integrity%20Report%20Form_Fillable.pdf (can also email me and I'll reply with a copy)
   - Recommend consequences
   - Email to academicintegrity@cse.unl.edu

10

Process

4. Matt creates entry on spreadsheet; emails student on my behalf
   - Inform student of allegation (shouldn't be a surprise)
   - Invite response – 7-day clock
5. Response(s) from students added to case file
6. Committee "meets"
   - Concur with instructor – make recommendation to Dept Chair
   - Non-concur with instructor – discuss with instructor, then make recommendation
7. Matt emails student on Dept Chair's behalf
   - Inform student of committee's recommendation
   - Invite appeal – 7-day clock

11

Consequences – *guidelines*

- First Offense
  - No credit for the assignment
  - Egregious offense: failing grade for course
- Second Offense
  - Failing grade for course
- Third Offense
  - Failing grade for course, expelled from CSCE major/minor, cannot enroll in any CSCE courses
- If not currently a student in the affected course
  - Refer to Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards for Warning/Probation/other sanctions

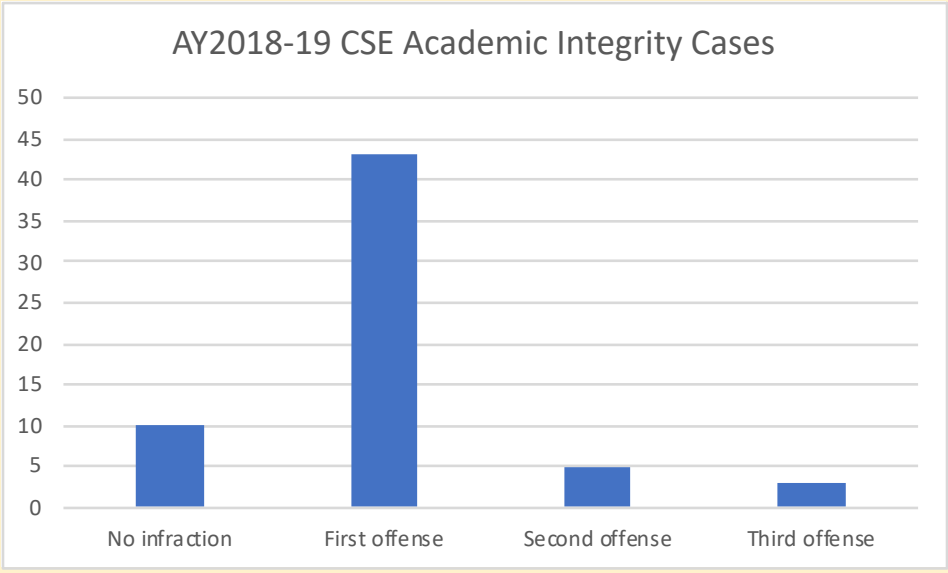
12

Outline

- Syllabus statements (CYA)
- Department process
- Last year's numbers
- Prevention & Detection
- Discussion of example cases
- Open discussion

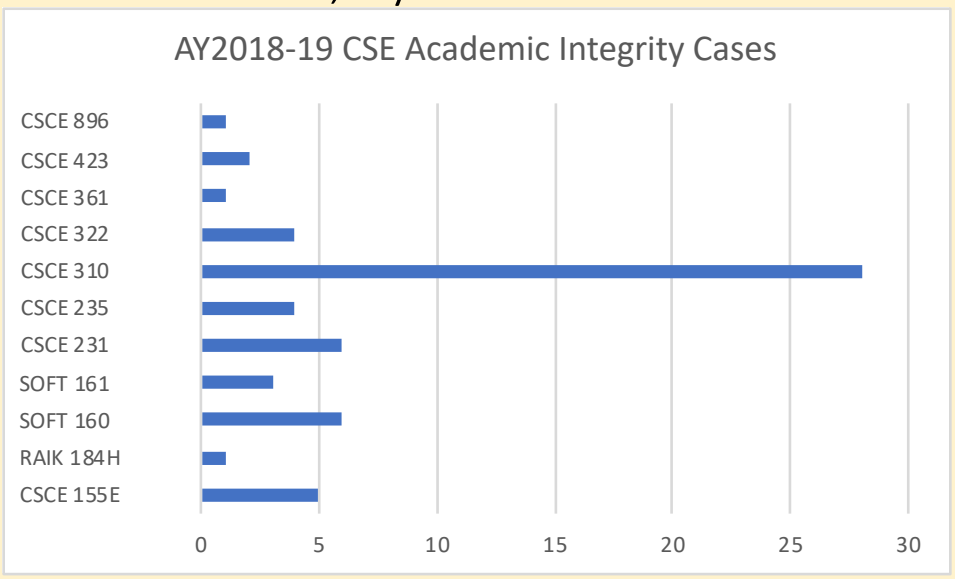
13

Number of cases, total



14

Number of cases, by course



15

Outline

- Syllabus statements (CYA)
- Department process
- Last year's numbers
- Prevention & Detection
- Discussion of example cases
- Open discussion

16

Detection

- MOSS
- TA questioning for understanding
- Webgrader logs
- Miscellaneous
  - Known sources of bad information
  - Ratted out by other classmate
  - Ratted out by Chegg tutor
  - Confession (intentional or otherwise)
- …?

17

Prevention – Reminders on Assignment

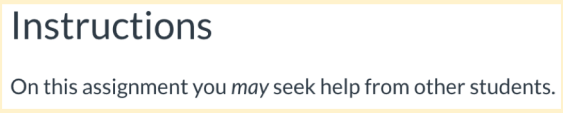
Academic integrity As with all coursework, academic honesty applies to this project. Obviously you must collaborate with the other members of your team. When it comes to other teams:

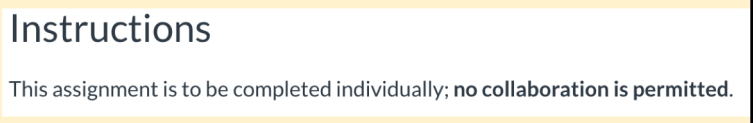
- Collaborating with other teams to understand the requirements is acceptable. I expect the TAs to make sure any clarification given to one team is given to all teams working the same project, and so it's reasonable for teams to communicate with each other to make sure they have the same understanding of the requirements. Teams may *not* copy each others' work on the requirements analysis document.
- In subsequent phases of the waterfall, you may discuss high-level concepts with members of other teams ("how do I indicate inheritance in a UML class diagram?", "where do I put collaborators on a CRC card?"), but teams may *not* collaborate with each other on their analysis, design, implementation, or test plan.

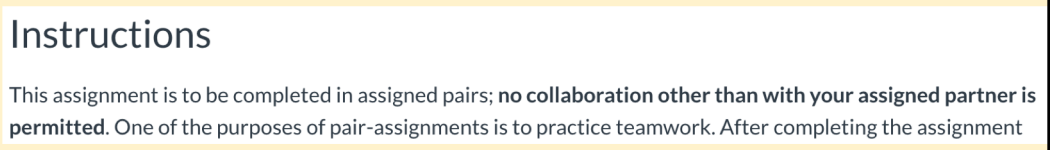
Copying models or code off of the internet and placing it into your deliverables is completely out of the question. You may look at examples to understand something you're trying to teach yourself, but you should indicate these sources in the deliverables.

Prevention – Reminders on Assignment

- "Setup" Assignments
- Individual Assignments
- Pair Assignments







19

Prevention – Make it harder to cheat

- Create assignments unlikely to have easy-to-find solutions on the web
- Create assignments that require interaction with software tool
  - Login-based
  - Token-based
- …?

20

Prevention – Rubric-Based Incentives/Disincentives

- **2 points** for making regular commits; *i.e.*, not waiting until the end of the project to make a massive commit.

*If **at any time** your repository is public or has internal visibility then you will receive a 10% penalty. Further, if another student accesses your non-private repository and copies your solution then I will assume that you are complicit in their academic dishonesty.*

Whitebox Testing

- **deduct 1 point** for each line of `Calculator.java` that has been changed, as determined by `diff`.

21

Outline

- Syllabus statements (CYA)
- Department process
- Last year's numbers
- Prevention & Detection
- Discussion of example cases
- Open discussion

22