# CS16 Collaboration Policy

## Spring 2019

In addition to Brown University's rules, CS16 has its own policy on student collaboration. If you have *any* questions about this policy, ask a TA or Seny.

## Homeworks

You may (and please do!) discuss homework problems with other students to any level of detail, up to and including the solution. We want you to really understand the problems, and many find that working with other students helps. In fact, we want you to understand the problems so well that you could reproduce your answers in, say, a casual conversation with your parents, so we require that you follow these rules when doing homework with other students:

- All written work must be your own. While you may discuss the solution with other students, you may not look at anyone's written solution, copy the solution from a board, have the answer dictated to you, or be given the solution in any other form.

- You must be able to explain every aspect of your solution, and we reserve the right to ask you to explain how you arrived at your answer.

- You may not consult anyone outside of the current iteration of CS16 (including former students and TAs) about homework problems.

- You may not look at anyone's code in Python homework questions, or in Java projects. This includes not working together when you're coding up the problems or test cases. Resist the temptation to sit right next to a friend and code to avoid violating this rule. All coding work **must** be done independently.

- Don't copy code from the internet. Also, don't put up homework solutions or project code on the internet on publicly accessible places.

- You may not decompile, tamper with, manipulate, or use the course resources (including, but not limited to, demo files and provided jar files) in ways other than those explicitly permitted via our course's documentation. This will be considered a violation of the collaboration policy of the same severity as plagiarism.

## Programming Assignments

You may discuss implemenation of the assignments only with TAs. You are not allowed to share code/pseudocode with other students, give or receive debugging help, or copy code. You are also not allowed to share test cases with other students. You may not consult anyone outside of CS16 (including former students) for assistance on projects. You are, however, allowed to discuss course material related to programming assignments with other students. For example, if the book or lecture slides have pseudocode for an algorithm that you need to implement as a programming assignment, it's ok to discuss the pseudocode and running time of the algorithm, but it isn't ok to discuss the translation of the pseudocode to Java or Python. This policy includes discussion of programming assignments with other students on Piazza.

## Clinic Hours

Clinic Hours are a great resource for you to discuss problems with other students. However, you are not permitted to write up full solutions to problems on whiteboards or dictate solutions to other students. You **may not** take notes or pictures during clinic hours. You must write up your solution independently.

## Lecture Activities

You are expected to complete and hand in your own in-lecture activities. That is, turning in someone else's activity, or having someone else turn in your activity, is a collaboration policy violation for both parties involved.

## Summary

The following table summarizes discussions allowed and not allowed by the collaboration policy:

|  | CS16 Staff | Tutors/CS16 Students | Others |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course Material | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Homeworks | Yes | Yes (limited) | No |
| Exams | Yes | No | No |
| Programs/Code | Yes | No | No |

***If you violate this policy, you may be subject to disciplinary action by the University.***