

AN IMPORTANT DISCUSSION ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

You **must** read this document.

Every student is responsible to know the contents of this document.

Failure to read this document in its entirety will **not** be considered as an excuse.

In this electronic age it is increasingly easier and easier for students to submit work that is not original or not their own. Exchanging information and downloading files is more and more common.

Likewise though, this same electronic age makes it increasingly easier to **detect** non-original work.

Academic dishonesty in assignments includes (but is not limited to):

- **copying** of another student's assignment
- **allowing** another student to copy
- using code from an **external source** (text, instructor, tutor, course website) where a student's own code is expected
- **unacceptable** collaboration

What is **unacceptable**? There is a difference between discussing assignments and solutions with fellow students, and working together on the solutions to the point where the work submitted is clearly not individual work.

Discussing in groups of two or more how to do an assignment is acceptable. **Talking** about resources one might use or a textbook or website that might be helpful is also acceptable.

- Academic dishonesty occurs the **second** you allow another student to **see** your work in progress or your finished work.
- Showing a student your completed assignment or looking at another student's completed work is plagiarism. This is not 'helping a friend'. This is not 'working together'. Be clear – **THIS IS CHEATING**. There is no ambiguity here.
- The second you allow another student to look at or you look at another student's work; you have committed an **academic dishonesty**. If in doubt, please contact your professor.
- The **sharing of files** or **downloading** completed work off of the internet is also (obviously) plagiarism. This is cheating plain and simple.

There are many ways to detect plagiarism. Computer forensics can detect similarities in style and content. Forensics can tell editing history, error count and content source. As stated previously, it is increasingly easier to detect non-original work.

You are responsible for all access to your work.

It is your responsibility to guard and protect your computer files.

A.) If you use any of the computers on campus, you are given a password/logon for a reason.

The reason for this is to provide security to your work product.

You are in charge of this security and you will be held responsible for it.

You **MUST** log out when you are done with a session.

You can **NOT** under **ANY** circumstance allow another student to have access to your account.

If you leave your computer logged on or you allow another student to have access to your account, you will be held responsible if that student looks at or copies your files. You will be held accountable as if you directly gave that student your work and you will be considered as participating in the cheating and will have the full penalty as outlined in this document assigned.

B.) If you allow another student to use your personal computer or laptop you are responsible for the files and contents of your computer.

In the case of allowing another student to use your computer or laptop to work on an assignment, it is your responsibility to ensure that student does not have access to any of your work in progress or finished work. You must remove all copies of your work or place the files in password protected and secure locations on the computer or laptop.

If you leave your work or files on your computer in an accessible area then you will be held responsible if that student looks at or copies your files. You will be held accountable as if you directly gave that student your work and you will be considered as participating in the cheating and will have the full penalty as outlined in this document assigned.

C.) Do NOT download, inspect, upload or submit finished work to online scholastic sharing sites.

Making your work available for inspection or copying through any online site on the Internet is equivalent to supplying the same work directly to another student. The use of this type of source material is considered as plagiarizing on the assignment. **This is cheating.** You will be held accountable as if you directly gave the other student your work and you will be considered as participating in the cheating and will have the full penalty as outlined in this document assigned. These sites are constantly monitored by the professor for current content.

D.) Tutors or any form of 'outside help' are consultation ONLY and cannot supply answers.

The role of tutoring is to help students understand course material. The definition of Tutor includes any source of aid or help. This includes 'friends', persons who previously completed the course and/or any outside agent. Tutors (paid or unpaid) or any other source of 'help' must not write any part or all of an assignment for the students. Tutors should not 'advise' or 'suggest' what is to be entered into an assignment or the solutions to any portion of the assignments. Any aid beyond what you would have received directly from the instructor will be considered an academic offense. It still counts as cheating even if you typed in the suggestions yourself. Just because you typed in what someone 'advised' you to enter does NOT make it original work or your own work. **This is cheating.** You will be held accountable as if you directly copied another

person's work and you will be considered as participating in the cheating and will have the full penalty as outlined in this document assigned.

- E.) **Working in groups of two or more in front of a computer or laptop on assignments or quizzes is cheating. These are NOT community assignments. You are to take the quizzes individually and NOT in groups of two or more.**

Working together in front of a computer can be considered as a form of cheating. This allows the probability of one person performing the majority of the work and the other person or persons to simply copy the finished solution. This is sharing work product when you are expected to perform the work on an individual basis. These assignments are set out to be written only by you and not by a 'committee'. This is not teamwork. This is not helping. This is not sharing ideas. You may be asked to explain your submitted work. If you cannot provide a coherent understanding of your submission of either the assignments or the quizzes, you will be held accountable as if you directly copied another student's work and you will be considered as participating in the cheating and will have the full penalty as outlined in this document assigned.

As they taught us in High School: "solo los perdedores engañan"

But, this is no longer High School. There is no excuse for not submitting your own work. Your work **will** be checked for academic offenses. If you do cheat, there is a very high probability you will be caught, so:

PLEASE - DO NOT CHEAT! IT MAKES FOR A VERY BAD DAY FOR EVERYONE!

Even if you do not get caught, it does not mean there are no consequences. Last semester 52 students failed the course because they did not achieve a 49% or higher on the final exam. This was due in a large part to the probability they could not correctly answer many of the written portion of the exam because they had not performed the work on the assignments on their own. Although this only represents approximately 6% of the students that took the course, it is a high enough number to warrant these warnings.

I take academic dishonesty and this course very seriously. It is hoped that it will be understood that it is in your own best interest to do the same. Your grade will reflect the commitment and effort put into the course work.