

Academic Integrity in Computing

Presented by the UWF Chapter of Upsilon Pi Epsilon
Endorsed by the faculty of the Computer Science Department

What is Academic Integrity?

Academic integrity is personal honesty in the pursuit of an education. It is based on responsibility, trust, fairness, and respect. Academic integrity increases the value of your academic achievements and it provides respectability for yourself, your classmates, and your school.

Why Is It Important?

- Students are better prepared for subsequent courses. Computer Science courses frequently build upon each other; inadequate understanding of lower-level course material will result in difficulty with upper-level classes
- Leads to enhanced knowledge and skills that prepare students for real-world careers
- Favorably influences the value of your degree by maintaining credibility and respectability for all students and faculty--as well as the academic institution

CORE VALUES OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- 1 Responsibility
- 2 Trust
- 3 Honesty
- 4 Fairness
- 5 Respect

UWF Plagiarism Policy:
<http://uwf.edu/cas/docs/plagiarism.htm>

UWF's Student Conduct policy:
<http://uwf.edu/trustees/procedures/>

What is Allowed and Not Allowed?

Computer Science coursework can present some “grey areas” that are not obviously distinguishable in terms of acceptable assistance or acts of academic misconduct. When in doubt in “grey areas”, always ask your instructor what is permissible. It is much better to be denied a resource than to commit academic misconduct.

Allowed:

- Getting help from the instructor and authorized tutors and TAs
- Discussions with other students about assignment requirements
- Discussions with other students about general strategies to complete assignments that do not include viewing personal code
- Discussions with other students regarding syntax errors, compiler error messages, and computer/application tips to help with assignments
- Use of code segments from textbooks and the web when permission has been granted by the instructor and the source is fully cited
- Discussions in pseudocode without writing or typing

Not Allowed:

- Accessing or viewing private files of another student or instructor
- Copying another person's work and passing it off as yours, whether from another student or from a printed or internet source
- Allowing someone to copy your work
- Leaving copies of your work out for another student to see. This includes the trash can!
- Group collaboration on assignments, unless specifically permitted/arranged by the instructor
- Submitting fake output that makes it appear that your program fulfills assignment requirements when it does not

Where can you get help?

One of the most important things you can do is to manage your time wisely! Keep up with reading assignments, do not skip classes, and begin work on programming assignments when they are first assigned. Computer Science courses require this!

When stuck or in need of assistance, authorized persons to assist with assignments are:

- Your instructor
 - During office hours and by appointment -- check the syllabus for the instructor's availabilities
- Tutors in the Multi-Platform Lab
 - Bldg. 79/Room 175
 - Tutor schedule is posted online at http://www.cs.uwf.edu/facilities/unix_lab/tutor_schedule/tutor.pdf
- Course TAs
 - Bldg. 79/Room 123
 - 474-3064

Be prepared when you meet. Have specific questions. You will benefit most if you have first made an honest attempt at understanding the assignment on your own.

What happens when misconduct occurs?

Although not common, public knowledge... unfortunate cases of CS students caught in acts of academic misconduct have resulted in grades of '0' on assignments, course grades of 'F', possible expulsion, and a written record of academic misconduct.

Do not fall prey to temptations that will result in you becoming one of these statistics!

Academic misconduct investigations consume huge amounts of time for both students and faculty.

"Students involved in academic misconduct investigations suffer significant stress that then negatively impacts their ability to learn effectively in their other courses as well"

"No one wants to fly in an airplane running a system designed by a someone who cheated on that assignment or exam in school"

"Faculty time spent involved in academic misconduct cases is time that is not spent for the benefit of the other students"

"When in doubt about grey areas, always ask your instructor"



Upsilon Pi Epsilon
International Honor Society for the Computing and Information Disciplines

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