

Collaboration Policy

Fall 2021

Adapted from CSCI1410's Fall 2020 Collab Policy.

You may discuss the material from the class and the assignments among yourselves as much as you like, and consult any external source you find useful in understanding the material, but everything you hand in (including code and written answers) must be your own work.

The policy means that you can use your fellow students as a resource to help understand the material in the course, but you may not directly access or view their answers, or use their answers as your own. You may use the internet or the textbook as a general resource for understanding the material for the course, but you may not, under any circumstances, copy and submit code or written answers from it.

A good analogy is handing in an essay. You might discuss your thoughts with a classmate or a colleague, but every paragraph in a submitted essay must be your own—copying paragraphs from the web is not allowed, and neither is copying them from a friend.

Please be aware that we will run plagiarism detection software on the code that you hand in. It can, and will, determine whether or not you have copied code from each other, or from solutions available from the internet, even if you change variable names, or move blocks of code around. It also produces a handy visual comparison of the offending pairs of code, which disciplinary committees find very easy to interpret.

Imagine that you are confused about breadth-first search, and your implementation is not working. It is OK to:

- Ask a friend to explain how breadth-first search works.
- Examine an example search trace with a friend, and ask them to help you understand where it went wrong.
- Use Google or Wikipedia to find material describing breadth-first search.

It is not OK to:

- Ask a friend to look at your code to help you debug it.
- Ask to see a copy of a friend's code.
- Use Google or Wikipedia to find code for breadth-first search, and then use it in your answer.

Other things you should avoid:

- Do not make your code publicly available anywhere on the internet (for example, on online forums and public versioning systems such as Github).
- Do not make your code world-readable. (Not on your local machine, not on a white board, etc.)
- Do not share your screen while your code is visible to viewers.

By signing in the Gradescope Google Form, you certify that you understand and agree to abide by the CSCI1410 Collaboration Policy, as described above and published on the course website.