

# Honor Code

**The Department of Computer Science takes the Honor Code seriously. Violations are easy to identify and will be dealt with promptly.**

The Computer Science Honor Code can be found on our website. Since interpretation of how it might apply in individual courses might vary, we provide additional detail here.

The types of assignments given in this course are **programming assignments, quizzes, and exams**. To be as transparent as possible as to how the honor code applies to each assignment type, we describe them below, including examples of permitted and prohibited behaviors. *These examples are not exhaustive!* If you have any questions about how the honor code might apply in a particular circumstance, please discuss it with your instructor.

**Single-Author Programming Assignments.** The successful completion of a lab assignment involves broadly three steps: program design, program implementation, and documentation. Each individual is responsible for producing their own work. Examples of permitted and prohibited activities for single-author labs are described here.

**Program Design.** A number of labs require that each student prepare a *design document* which is a brief, high-level implementation plan that typically describes the intended data structures and code organization. Students in the course are permitted to participate in discussions with one another about program design, but should ultimately produce their own written design document. Collaboration on program design must be explicitly noted in the design document.

**Program Implementation (“code”).** Programs written by students should represent their own work. Students are permitted to ask other students in the class questions of clarification, language syntax, and error message interpretation, but are never permitted to view/share each others code. Students may also use any code (including complete examples) provided by course instructors. Further, students should not use any resources beyond those directly provided by their instructor, so-called *outside sources*.

The use of Github Copilot is expressly forbidden in this class and is considered a severe honor code violation.

**Program Documentation (“comments”).** Students should write descriptive comments intended to help others (e.g., graders) understand the operation of their code. Comments should describe both “what” and “how” code achieves its objectives. In general, comments should be a student’s own work. One exception is that starter code may sometimes include instructor-provided documentation of “what” is wanted. It is OK to leave these comments in place, or even to alter them, without attribution.

**Group Programming Assignments.** For some of the labs, students will be offered the option of working with a partner. Both a partner pair and a single student working alone are referred to as a **group**. Members of the same group may discuss any aspect of the assignment with one another. Interactions between groups are subject to the constraints described above under **Single-Author Programming Assignments**.

**Quizzes.** All quizzes are “open-book.” You may refer to your course notes, course packet, or any other material we provide for you, but you may not consult outside sources (e.g., Stack Overflow).

**Exams.** All exams are “closed-book.” No resources may be accessed while taking the exams with the sole exception of asking the instructor clarifying questions.