

Honor Code

Handout 2
CSCI 334: Fall 2023

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** (aka “labs”), a **midterm exam**, and a **final project**. To be as transparent as possible as to how the honor code applies to each assignment type, I 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 two steps: 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 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 ChatGPT or Github Copilot to generate lab solutions is expressly forbidden in this class and is considered an 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, and may even view each other’s code. However, each group member must independently code up and submit their own solution. Group members are prohibited from copying source code files—each student must independently type in any code worked out with a partner.

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.

Final Project. All aspects of the final project may be developed together with your partner, if you elect to work with one. Except when stated otherwise, you may share source code files, design documents, and other materials, and you can submit all of them together in a single repository. However, all submitted work must be the original work of you and your partner.