

Cheating and Plagiarism

Plagiarism and other forms of academic misrepresentation are taken extremely seriously. Misrepresentation of another's work as one's own is widely recognized as among the most serious violations. The violation is clearly flagrant when it occurs as plagiarism on a required paper or assignment or as cheating on an examination, regardless of whether it is a take-home or in-class examination. The punishment for such offenses can involve expulsion from the program. There are many other ways in which a violation can occur. The circumstances and the policies may vary for different courses, and each instructor will establish his or her own rules for a particular course. Each student is responsible for understanding these rules.

Cheating includes but is not limited to:

1. Plagiarism (explained below);
2. Submission of work that is not the student's own;
3. Submission or use of falsified data;
4. Obtaining unauthorized access to an exam or assignment;
5. Use of another person as a "stand-in" for an exam;
6. Use of unauthorized material in the preparation of an assignment or during an examination;
7. Supplying or communicating unauthorized information to another student for use in an assignment or exam;
8. Collaboration on an assignment that has not been explicitly permitted by an instructor
9. Submission of the same work for credit in more than one course without advance permission from both instructors

Plagiarism is the failure to indicate the source of work – either with quotation marks or footnotes. The source can be:

1. Specific language, such as a phrase, paragraph, or document
2. A graphic element;
3. A proof;
4. Program code, or;
5. An idea derived from the work of another person

Note that material on the web is another person's work and is therefore subject to the same rules on plagiarism and cheating that apply to any other source material.

Program code and spreadsheets are as unique as written work and should demonstrate the effort and creativity of the individual student preparing the work. They are not very different from a written essay. Therefore, students should consider the programs written by others as belonging to their author and copying part of entire someone else's program is a form of plagiarism. Students who copy a part or all of a software program or spreadsheet written by someone else and submit it as their own are engaging in behavior that constitutes cheating when the instructor has not explicitly assigned these homework assignments or tests as group work. Students who share their program code with other students without explicit permission from the instructor are considered equally culpable for the academic integrity violation and will be subject to the same penalties.

If students are found engaging in cheating and/or plagiarism or in mutual collusion, they will automatically be given a failing grade in the course. They will also be subject to further disciplinary action, which may include additional penalties, such as expulsion from the program. All Heinz College programs follow Carnegie Mellon's policies and procedures for academic disciplinary actions and refer all instances of cheating and plagiarism to the university's dean of students. The university may impose sanctions, above and beyond those established by the course instructor or the Heinz College.

I have read and understood the policy relating to cheating and plagiarism. I will comply with this policy for all work that I complete while at Carnegie Mellon University. I understand that a violation of this policy will cause me to incur serious penalties, up to and including expulsion from the program.

Print Name

Signature

Date