

Collaboration Policy

Sept. 10, 2010

IMPORTANT: Please carefully read this document and sign below. Return it to a TA before your next class. You cannot receive credit for any assignment until we have this signed document.

CSCI0931 strives to maintain a balance between collaborative learning and individual assessment. The collaboration policy is built to reflect this. Its purpose is to ensure that students are actively thinking, working, and participating in the class, while also allowing students to discuss core course concepts.

All assignments will have a preface explaining what is acceptable collaboration for the assignment. It is your responsibility to read and understand this preface and contact the course staff if you are in any way uncertain of its meaning.

Generally, you will be able to discuss with your classmates any material covered in class. Some homework problems you will be allowed to work through collaboratively. This does not mean that you passively copy down the answers of your partner(s). It is your responsibility to ensure that you completely and wholly understand any material that you submit and that you are actively engaged in the production of the solution. We reserve the right to ask you to explain the reasoning behind your work without the presence of any collaborators. Also note that you must list the names of any students you collaborate with.

An exception to this rule are the problems marked as “Independent.” In addition to being labeled “Independent,” they will have a line next to the task. An example of such a problem is below:

Task 1:

Independent: What is the average airspeed velocity of an unladen swallow?

These problems are meant to assess your individual understanding of the course material. To receive credit, you may only discuss these problems with CSCI0931 course staff. All final projects for each unit of the class are independent projects.

It is also your responsibility to make sure that your coursework is never in publicly accessible locations. Examples of such violations include, but are not limited to, posting your solutions on the web, leaving print outs of solutions in publicly accessible areas, and storing assignments in publicly accessible folders. If a classmate is able to copy your work due to negligence on your part, you may be held partially responsible.

Remember that the course staff (Professors and Teaching Assistants) are all available to you during the hours outlined on the web page (<http://cs.brown.edu/courses/csci0931/staff.shtml>). If you have any questions or concerns about what is acceptable collaboration, play it safe and either meet with a TA during scheduled TA hours or send an email to the course staff (cs0931tas(at)cs.brown.edu).

By signing below, I _____ agree to abide by all of the policies mentioned above. I have carefully read and fully understand all course policies. I understand that failure to adhere by these policies or the policies outlined in the Brown University Academic Code (http://www.brown.edu/Administration/Dean_of_the_College/curriculum/academic_code.php) could result in an Academic Code Committee and an NC for the course.

Sign: _____

Date: _____