

Student Academic Conduct Policy

The University strives to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Any dishonesty related to academic work or student academic records constitutes academic misconduct. Such acts are subject to investigation and disciplinary action through the appropriate University procedures. The procedures for such action and for those relating to the appeal process are outlined in the student handbook titled *The Lowdown* (the student handbook, located online at <http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown>). You should familiarize yourself with these procedures. Penalties are left to the discretion of the instructor and may result in a failing grade for the course. A second occurrence of academic misconduct will result in dismissal from the School of CIS and the University of South Alabama.

Guidelines for Submitting Individual Programming Assignments

Unless otherwise stated by your instructor, all material submitted for grading must be your own work. As stated in *The Lowdown*, “any dishonesty related to academic work or records constitutes academic misconduct, including, but not limited to, activities such as giving or receiving unauthorized aid in tests and examinations, improperly obtaining a copy of an examination, plagiarism, misrepresentation of information, altering transcripts or university records” (2003-04 ed, pg. 150).

The following examples should elucidate the guidelines:

Examples of Acceptable Conduct

- Discussing *general* approaches to an assignment, without discussing the algorithm in detail, actual lines of code, user interface design, or program design.
- Explaining/clarifying the assignment specifications for others.

Examples of Cheating

- Copying, discussing, or viewing all or part of someone else’s solution and submitting it as your own work. This includes but is not limited to code, the user interface, data files, design artifacts, and/or documentation.
- Working with another student on an assignment and submitting it as individual work.
- Giving someone else your program or design so they can “see” how the program should be written.
- Soliciting, or giving, coding assignments from current or previous semesters.
- Soliciting assistance from outside sources (e.g. online bulletin boards).

You should receive help with care – even from tutors and lab assistants. Avoid becoming dependent on others for assistance. Utilize other resources such as programming manuals.

You should give assistance with care – you may be subject to, and liable, for cheating. Also, when you help too much, the other student is deprived of a valuable learning experience.

Most importantly, *protect your intellectual property!* Do not leave printouts or floppy disks behind, or leave programs on the lab computer hard drives. You are responsible for the security of your assignments.

When in doubt about the permissibility of any action, consult your instructor.