Teachers Call It Cheating

We call it teamwork

Academic Honesty
Dr. B. Fraser (c)
The Challenge

• How can we balance the following?
  - Helping a friend on an assignment
  - Doing individual work for assignments

• Everyone's Experience
  - How many people have been asked by a friend to help with some homework?
  - How many people have seen someone cheat on an exam (or know of it happening)?
Guide to Avoid Problems

- Discuss the material and deepen your understanding.
- Don't leave with any written (or typed) designs, algorithms, answers or code.

- With your own knowledge, do all the work by yourself.
- Do the work to learn the material. It'll pay off on the final.
- Cite any sources you quote or paraphrase.
What to do

• Protecting your work:
  – Don't show/give your work to a class mate.
  – Don't post your work online (web site / forum).
  – ..
    to another student (now, or in the future).
  – Use only password protected storage (dropbox, web server), and online-compilers.

• Doing your own work:
  – Don't..
    from someone else.
  – Don't copy from the Internet.
Getting Help

• When getting help, you should be:
  – Your “tutor” should be looking at *your* work; not you looking at the tutor's work.
  – Accepting a (partial) solution is cheating.

• Help others by teaching:
  – Explain how to do the work;
    Don't give or show them your work.
Reasons for Academic Dishonesty:

1) No time to do the work.
   - Start...
   - Give yourself:
     - Time to ask questions.
     - Time to learn.

Source: Physics study at MIT. Palazzo et al. (2010)
Patterns, correlates, and reduction of homework copying.
Success: Academic Honesty

• I am **passionate** about giving credit to students who do the work.

• My Promise:

  We will:
  1) prove you did the work, and
  2) give you the credit!
Success: Honest Assignments

Things we do...

- Each assignment marked by 1 TA
- www.google.com
- Use automated plagiarism detection tool. (MOSS)

Which means...

- Notice duplicate answers.
- Suspicious text and code will be searched.
- Finds “over enthusiastic collaboration”.

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Success: Honest Tests

**Things I do...**

- Multiple exam versions.
- Recorded seat locations.
- Require doctor's note for illness (see web).

**Which means...**

- Neighbours have different questions.
- Check for similar answers between adjacent seats.
- Only compelling medical reasons will warrant a makeup exam.
Consequences

• Proven cases will result in:
  – Possibly referred to the director of CS.
  – on file with computing science and SFU Registrar.

• Serious or Repeat offences:
  – Suspension for 1 or more terms.
  – Expulsion from the university.

• See website for general penalties for cheating
Summary

- Balance helping a friend with individual work:
  - OK to discuss ideas together.
  - Doing your own work
  - Protecting your work: Don't email it/post it!

- Plan ahead: leave enough time to learn.

- Many tools used to give marks to those doing their own work.
  - And those not doing the work don't get the marks.

- See my video: https://vimeo.com/121517684