Policy on Academic Honesty and Cheating

The field of computer science involves the application of knowledge related to computers to solve problems. Problem solving is an activity that requires considerable creativity, and often involves the collaboration of several people in order to arrive at the best solution to a problem.

In industry, emphasis is placed on producing the best solution to a problem in the most efficient way. CS professionals generally have the knowledge they need, or know where to get the knowledge they need, to solve a problem. They are usually organized in teams in order to maximize the collective experiences and insights of team members in the effort to develop the best solution to a problem. The team members are chosen for the particular expertise they can provide to the project. Each team member is encouraged to utilize the expertise of the rest of the team to most effectively solve the overall problem.

As a student, you are *acquiring* the background you will eventually need to participate in this industrial setting. This knowledge is gained from lecture, from classroom discussion, from textbooks/notes, from interaction with your instructor, teaching assistants and graders, and from informal collaboration with other students. You receive a grade in each course you take - the instructor designs the grading criteria and assigns exercises to help evaluate the amount of knowledge each student acquires from the course.

NOTE THAT THE GOALS OF A CS PROFESSIONAL AND THOSE OF A CS STUDENT ARE RADICALLY DIFFERENT! Specifically, the primary purpose of the work you do in a CS class is NOT to solve the specific problem, but rather to learn, practice and demonstrate to your instructor that you have acquired the knowledge required to solve the problem. While collaboration with other students is an important component in the *acquisition* of this knowledge, it is **NOT** a component in the *demonstration* of that knowledge.

Therefore, the following policies apply in the class. Your continued registration in this class indicates that you understand and accept these policies.

1. Unless specifically stated otherwise, each exercise is to be solved individually **BY EACH STUDENT**.

2. Students may work together in order to ACQUIRE the knowledge necessary to perform an exercise, but may NOT work together to actually design and implement the solution to the exercise itself.

3. Examples, code sections (including subroutine libraries), and programming templates that are supplied by the textbook, instructor, TA, or grader are designed to enhance the learning experience in the class. They MAY be used during the development of your solution to the exercise.

4. Examples, code sections, and programming templates supplied by other students, whether currently registered in the class or not, **ARE EXPLICITLY NOT ALLOWED** in the solution to any exercise.

5. Other sources (the web, other textbooks, magazines, etc) may be useful in acquiring the knowledge necessary to perform an exercise. Some resources, especially those that are more utilitarian in nature, may be useful in implementing a solution. Generally, however, these sources are NOT useful in the demonstration of your knowledge of the material required for an exercise, and should not be used. Often, more effort is spent trying to adapt someone else's code to a particular problem than it is to do the proper design and implementation in the first place. If there is any doubt about the use of such sources directly in solving an exercise, you should check with the instructor or TA. If they are used, the source should be cited in your solution to the exercise.

All violations of these policies will be considered cheating, and will be dealt with according to the guidelines outlined in the UI *"Student Code of Conduct."* If the violations occur before the withdraw date for the class, you will be asked to withdraw from the course. If the violation occurs after the withdraw date, or you choose not to withdraw when asked, you will be given a grade of F for the class.

I agree to the following policy.

Signed: _____   Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

1/12/12