Academic Integrity Policy for Students taking courses in Computer Science and Software Engineering at Drexel University

The Drexel Student Affairs Code of Conduct lists the violations of academic integrity, which include, for example, plagiarism, fabrication, cheating, and academic misconduct. Although this code is in effect for all Computer Science and Software Engineering courses taught by the Computer Science Department, additional kinds of violations that pertain specifically to Computer Science also apply. For example, outsourcing coursework to a rent-a-coder, hacking into a computer and stealing the solutions to assignments.


The instructor of the course will judge whether a student’s action constitutes a violation of academic integrity. If the student appeals the instructor’s decision, the Department Head will also make a separate judgment based on the evidence provided.

The student in violation of academic integrity will receive a penalty at the discretion of the instructor depending on the severity of the violation, and will not be allowed to withdraw from the course. For example, the penalty may be a zero on a piece of coursework, a letter grade reduction in the final grade, or an F in the course.

In addition, the course instructor must file a Drexel University Alleged Academic Misconduct Report (https://www.ischool.drexel.edu/sccs/). A copy of this report is sent to the Dean’s office of the student’s home college. The Dean’s office has the authority to take actions against students who repeatedly violate the academic integrity code.

Modifications to Drexel University’s Student Affairs Code of Conduct can be made at the discretion of the instructor, for example, to allow team projects. Such modifications must be specified on the course syllabus. In cases where students work in a team, only the students who violate the code of conduct will be subject to a penalty.