Academic Integrity

**Complete your academic honor pledge** [in this link](https://forms.gle/AqJQM1J6BVrgCvw39) **before the end of Week 1!**

1. **Academic Integrity**

The basic rule for CSE 8A is: Work hard. Start early. Make use of the expertise of the CSE 8A staff to learn what you need to know to really do well in the course. Don't cheat.

If you do cheat, we will enforce the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship (see the General Catalog or the corresponding web page, scroll 2/3 of the way down). This means: the Dean of your college will put you on probation or suspend you or dismiss you from UCSD.

You should not share any exam or quiz questions/answers on non-course related websites or social media. We monitor all major websites and if any violations are found to cheat during exams or quizzes, the instructors reserve the right to apply harsher penalties.

**What counts as cheating?**

In CSE 8A, you can read books, surf the web, talk to your friends and the CSE 8A staff to get help understanding the concepts you need to know to solve your PA problems. However, you should only work individually on PAs.

The goal of CSE 8A is about skills as much as it about knowledge. Future instructors, employers, and colleagues will expect that you will attain a certain proficiency in problem solving. Using unauthorized aids in doing your work will prevent you from attaining the proficiencies that others will expect. Meeting or not meeting these expectations relate directly to getting internships, retaining employment, and success in your future studies.

In CSE 8A, using or even looking at program code or the write-up of algorithms that someone else has written (unless it was explicitly provided as part of the assignment), or providing program code or detailed algorithms to someone else, or turning in code that you have written with someone else, is considered cheating. Yes, we do electronically check every program that is turned in.

Receiving a grade on a PA doesn't mean that you have passed the plagiarism checking. We can report cheating cases any time during the quarter, even after we submit your final letter grade. So the safest bet is don't cheat!

**How can I be sure that my actions are NOT considered cheating?**

To ensure you don't have a problem with this, here are some suggestions (in this discussion we aren't talking about your assigned partner):
• Don't even look at or discuss another student's code or detailed algorithms for a PSA you are working on, and don't let another student look at your code or show him/her your algorithms.
• Don't start with someone else's code and make changes to it, or in any way share code with other students.
• If you are talking to another student about the assignment, don't take notes, and wait an hour afterward before you write any code.

Also, in CSE 8A, you must write your own answers on the exams. Getting answers from someone else, or providing answers to someone else, is cheating.

To reinforce these points, every student in CSE 8A must read, understand, and sign the honor code. Refer to the instruction given on the first day of lecture for details. To detect instances of academic integrity violations in programming assignments we will use 3rd party software.

2. Getting Help

We expect that ALL STUDENTS WILL NEED HELP at some point in this course. If you find yourself needing help, this is not a cause for embarrassment. It is completely expected. Please seek help early and often through any (or all) of the following resources.

Open lab hours:

There are many, many hours in which tutors are willing and available to help you with any questions you might have. Course tutor calendar can be found [here](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=eng.ucsd.edu_6t35e7sfjg2ufi2lc6q68md10g%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FLos_Angeles) and how you can get help with a tutor can be found [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iNUYD2lwMOGwjKFBl4d0pgKAlCpOAaQjpbUfRQGo48/edit?usp=sharing).

Online help - edstem:

If you’re stuck on something CSE8A-related, whether content or logistics or scheduling, and aren’t sure what to do or who to ask, send a private discussion post to all instructors on edstem https://edstem.org/us/courses/5198/discussion/. (Click “New Thread”, make sure the “Private” box is checked, write your message, and submit) You can leave your message public if you think other students might be able to answer it, as well. We can direct you to the right resource, and, in some cases, might convert your private message into a public one if we believe everyone else could benefit from it. Don’t have an edstem account for CSE8A or can’t find your invite? Email yic242@eng.ucsd.edu. When answering questions, be polite, be clear, and assume the best intentions of the person asking. If it turns out you make a mistake or were wrong, admit it with a smile (emoji are great for this😊), and make sure the correct information is clear. Above all, keep in mind that the course is a community whose goal is to foster a positive learning environment for everyone. For public discussion, note that answers from your classmates are not official! They could be downright wrong or misleading, completely by accident. “My classmate said so on EdStem” is not a legitimate justification in most arguments, though they may indeed lead you in helpful directions.

• Confidential questions that you wish to address to your instructor only. Please email your instructor directly.
• Questions about your grade. Please contact the person who graded your assignment directly.
- Posts that include portions of your PA solution. Please see a tutor our tutoring session or post these questions privately.

**Office hours:**

Your instructor and TAs are always willing to help you during her or his office hours. If you cannot make it to your instructor’s or TA’s office hours but wish to meet with your instructor or TA, please send her or him an email to set up an appointment.