

Cheating:

We have to have this conversation because in the past few years it has become apparent that some students don't know what cheating is.

What's wrong with cheating?

Cheating ruins the moral of a classroom. Students who cheat and get good grades discourage many students who are trying to learn and do original research, especially if the grades they receive are lower than the students grades are cheating. Honest students can sometimes be turned into cheaters if they don't believe they are being treated fairly.

These are some examples of cheating:

- Using anyone else's work and turning it in as your own.
- Working with a partner and sharing the task is not cheating. Taking someone else's work without contributing to the project, regardless of source, and using it to earn points is cheating.
- Looking for test, quiz, or reflection questions online or on your phone is cheating. Do original research.
- Taking pictures of work and sharing with others is cheating. Both the person taking the work and sharing the work.
- Telling me that you turned in an assignment and I must have lost it, or misplaced it, or I didn't grade it is lying and cheating (check the no-name folder first).
- Copying someone else's study guide is cheating.
- Waiting until graded work is returned and then turning it in late is cheating.
- Participating in a group project and not doing your equal part of the project is cheating.
- Passing completed assignments to other students using USB drives, Google drives/shared drives, cloud resources, email, etc., etc., is cheating.
- Having more than one tab/browsers/web sites open during an online test.

What if I get stuck on a problem at home?

Looking online for lab/packet tracer solutions without attempting the problems yourself is cheating. If you get stuck on a lab at home and need help, use as much of an online video to help you through the issue you are having difficulty with. If you are using the video *instead* of doing the work yourself, you are cheating.

Cheating the community and stakeholders.

If we are here to cheat then we might as well close the school and save the taxpayers all the money that they sacrifice for your education. I've heard taxpayers say that providing free education is a big waste of money because the kids don't appreciate any of the resources given to them to help them prepare for their futures. When students cheat, they give validity to that argument.

If I suspect that you are a cheater:

- I will not send you any job referrals - ever.
- Give you a positive reference/referral (don't use me as a reference!).
- Will be suspect of everything you turn in from that point forward whether warranted or not.
- You're not serious about working in the IT industry.

There is absolutely no reason to cheat to do well in this class. A lot of time, effort, and expense has been expended to help you attain your career goals and give you the best education possible. Be honest and do the best you can!

Being an IT professional starts right here – today!