6.005x Collaboration Guidelines

adapted from 6.00.1x Collaboration Guidelines

Throughout this course, we encourage you to interact with your fellow students and engage in active discussion about the course. We suggest that you use the guidelines below for acceptable collaboration in doing so.

The staff will be proactive in removing posts and replies in the discussion forum that have stepped over the line.

- Given a problem, it is ok to discuss the general approach to solving the problem.

- You can work jointly to come up with general steps for the solution.

- It is ok to get a hint, or several hints, if you get stuck while solving a problem.

- You should work out the details of the solution yourself.

- It is **not ok** to take someone else's solution and simply copy the answers from their solution. This holds no matter whether you're doing reading exercises in edX, Java exercises in the Java Tutor, a problem set in Eclipse, or the exam.

- It is **not ok** to post answers to reading exercises or problem set problems **before** the submission deadline.

- It is **not ok** to look at a full step-by-step solution to a problem **before** the submission deadline.

- It is **not ok** to post answers to reading exercises or problem set problems on a public web server or to check your code into a public Github repository.

- It is ok to have someone show you a few steps of a solution where you have been stuck for a while, provided of course that you have attempted to solve it yourself first without success.

- After you have collaborated with others in generating a correct solution, a good test to see if you were engaged in acceptable collaboration is to make sure that you are able to solve the problem – and explain the solution – on your own.