

PHYSICS LAB
Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is to students what the Hippocratic Oath is to doctors---it is a form of professional integrity by which you are expected to abide.

Academic Integrity is about performing in your role as student in ways that are honest, trustworthy, respectful, responsible, and fair (see www.academicintegrity.org for more information). And, in general, this means that as a student, you will complete your academic assignments in the manner expected by the Instructor.

In Physics labs, we attempt to balance the *learning value* that can be gained by students *putting their heads together* with the *necessity of individual evaluation*. This is difficult because while we want to facilitate your learning, we also need to assess your individual learning and abilities (not what your friends learn or know).

In the physics lab class, you will be working with others on the lab experiments but the assignments themselves are NOT group assignments---you may NOT copy answers or portions of answers from others and you may NOT write down the answers that someone else developed, say in a study session. So, here's our suggestion. Talk to your classmates about the concepts and ideas---for example, "what exactly is electric potential? And what does it have to do with the upcoming lab?" But, we do not recommend that you answer the pre or post lab questions with other people. When you do this, you are likely to end up writing down the answers that really are someone else's answers---not your own.

If you need help on the actual pre or post labs, you should visit the Physics Tutorial Center or the LTAC's office hours. This would be the honest way to get assistance when you are struggling. So, it is best to not leave the pre and post lab write-ups to the last minute. If you DO consult with your peers and you want to assure us that you have upheld academic integrity regardless, please acknowledge your peers' assistance on your report.

We also strictly prohibit the use of old labs and old lab instructions/assignments. If you turn in an assignment that uses values from an old lab, you will receive a 0 and a warning. If you do it again, we will assume that you are copying labs previously submitted by another student and you will be reported for academic dishonesty.

Academic Integrity Pledge

"On my word, I promise to complete each of my assignments honestly, in accordance with the professor's expectations, the class academic integrity policy, the University's Policy on Integrity of Scholarship, and in the spirit of academic integrity. I will not seek to gain unfair advantage nor submit others' work, words or ideas as if they were my own. I affirm that my personal integrity is connected to my professional integrity and pledge that I will not compromise my character by submitting academic work that was completed by anything other than honest effort."

Affirmed by (Please Print)

On this date

Signature