Academic Integrity
What does it mean and why does it matter?
Academic Integrity/Academic Honesty

What do these words mean to you? Personally? Culturally?

What do you think they mean to this College/University?
Academic dishonesty violates the most fundamental values of an intellectual community and undermines the achievements of the entire University.

From http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academic-integrity-policy/
In other words...

Your diploma represents that you have achieved a certain level of knowledge. Northeastern University, in giving you a diploma, is verifying not only have you completed a graduate level program, but you have gained expertise in your area of study. It represents hard work, dedication, and skill.

Academic dishonesty = Misrepresentation of YOU & NU
What is cheating?
University Definitions

• **Cheating:** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. When completing any academic assignment, a student shall rely on his or her own mastery of the subject.

How is this different than what we just talked about? How is it the same?
University Definitions

• **Fabrication**: Falsification, misrepresentation, or invention of any information, data, or citation in an academic exercise.

How is this different than what we just talked about? How is it the same?
University Definitions

• **Plagiarism**: Using as one’s own the words, ideas, data, code, or other original academic material of another without providing proper citation or attribution. Plagiarism can apply to any assignment, either final or drafted copies, and it can occur either accidentally or deliberately. Claiming that one has “forgotten” to document ideas or material taken from another source does not exempt one from plagiarizing.

How is this different than what we just talked about? How is it the same?
University Definitions

• Unauthorized Collaboration: Instances when students submit individual academic works that are substantially similar to one another. While several students may have the same source material, any analysis, interpretation, or reporting of data required by an assignment must be each individual’s independent work unless the instructor has explicitly granted permission for group work.

How is this different than what we just talked about? How is it the same?
But wait... there’s more?

Dishonesty in the work you turn in vs. Other kinds of dishonesty
What else could there be?

Academically Dishonest Activities

• any action taken by a student with the intention of gaining an unfair advantage over other students

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty

• intentionally or knowingly helping or contributing to the violation of any provision of this policy
So I cheated. Who cares?

Employers

Classmates

Faculty

The University

YOU!
If you’re caught...

- **University Penalty**
  - Reported to OSCCR (required)
  - Non-academic sanction (i.e. not grade-related), anything from warning to suspension to expulsion
    - Can affect your ability to participate in activities outside the classroom, including co-op or student jobs

- **Course Penalty**
  - Grade reduction and/or failure of assignment or course

- **College Penalty**
  - Second offense- termination from program
If you’re not...

- Even if you do not get caught, cheating affects the following things:
  - Courses
  - Interviews
  - Jobs
  - Northeastern’s relationship with employers
    - And thus, other students
Take Away Points

When in doubt, ASK YOUR PROFESSOR.