CS131 Collaboration Policy

In addition to Brown University’s rules, CS131 has its own policy on student collaboration. This document explains the CS131 collaboration policy and student agreement in detail and provides specific examples of allowed and forbidden types of collaboration. We expect you to read carefully and understand this document, and to use good judgment in applying it. Please consult the Professor or the Head TA in case of doubt as to what is allowed or if you have a special situation. Note that you may neither give nor receive prohibited kinds of help. Helping someone cheat is just as bad as cheating for yourself. If you violate this policy, you may be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

In the rest of this document, "CS131 Staff" means the Professor and the CS131 Teaching Assistants and "course material" means anything covered in the lectures, the notes, and assigned reading material.

Discussion of the course material and general concepts with anyone is permitted. In addition, you may consult any resource (including online resources and other people) for documentation about languages, Unix commands, or other tools.

Homeworks, Labs, and Projects: You are allowed to discuss any aspect of assignments with the CS131 Staff. You may discuss general strategies for solving assignments with other students of CS131, provided you meet all of the following conditions:

* You may not write anything down permanently while talking to other students; all solutions must be written on your own with no notes from group discussions. However, you may use a whiteboard, chalkboard, notepad, etc. for your discussions if the resource is destroyed (e.g. erased) at the end of the discussion.
* Your handin must be your own work. Devising an answer in a group and turning it in, even if you destroy your notes and reconstruct it from memory, is not permitted.
* You must not let yourself be led by another student to the extent that your task becomes significantly less challenging because of your discussion with him or her.

You must never allow others to look at your solutions. You must ensure that all of your coursework on the filesystem have the proper permissions so that other students cannot view and potentially copy your work. Failure to do so will be viewed as negligence and you will be held responsible. See the chmod man page or ask the Sunlab Consultant for help if you don’t know how to go about this.

You must fully understand all work you hand in, and the CS131 Staff reserves the right to talk to you about your handin, to make sure you fully understand it.

Exams: You may discuss exams only with the CS131 staff. You may consult no resources except those provided with the exam itself. After the exam is complete, you may discuss its contents only with the CS131 staff and the other CS131 students who took the exam at the same time.

Outside Sources: The CS131 Staff highly encourages you to use outside sources to further your knowledge and understanding in the course. This includes, but is not limited to, books, journals, and the Internet. While the CS131 Staff encourages use of these sources, plagiarism on assignments is strictly prohibited. Not only is it a violation of this student agreement, but it is also a direct violation of school policy and will be punished to the fullest extent possible.

By signing below, I agree to abide by the above policy.

Full Legal Name: __________________________________________

CS Login: ________________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________________ Date: ___________________