UIC Department of Computer Science Student Code of Conduct

The Computer Science department at UIC believes our community should be open for everyone. As such, we are committed to providing a safe, welcoming environment for all, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, race/ethnicity, religion or otherwise included in the University Nondiscrimination Statement. As is the case for all of UIC, neither difference nor disadvantage should stand in the way of intellectual and professional achievement.

As in all communities, members must assume the responsibility and obligation to uphold community integrity, standards, and drive toward success. There is an expectation that members’ behaviors and actions, including language, do not violate the rights and privileges of other community members. There is room for everyone’s success. Someone else’s achievements do not diminish your own.

These expectations along with all UIC general community standards should be followed whenever you are acting as a member of the community (i.e., during in person or virtual classes, using course approved chat systems, using the CS lounge, attending UIC and department events, etc.)

Expected behavior of all community members:
- Be respectful, professional, collaborative and considerate of others.
- Do not use discriminatory, demeaning or harassing behavior or language.
- Sexual harassment in any form is not tolerated. See Office for Access and Equity for policies.
- Be advocates for your peers. Alert someone (i.e., a faculty member, TA, your academic advisor and/or the Office of the Dean of Students) if you are concerned about another student.
- Respect the boundaries of others, including when speaking or writing. Not sure? Ask.
- Participate in creating an inclusive environment that promotes:
  - Professional, intellectual and academic achievements
  - Mutual respect, care and collaboration

Positive examples:
- By default, addressing faculty by their title of Professor or Dr.
- By default, addressing peers by their correct name and preferred gender pronoun
- Offer words of encouragement before and after a difficult exam or project
- Having patience with others who are doing their best, and helping them – “we win when we all win”
- Saying nothing when you have nothing constructive or positive to add

Negative examples:
- The use of slang or profanity that is hurtful, demeaning, or destructive
- The use of abbreviations and acronyms that are hurtful, demeaning, or destructive
- Referring to others in non-professional ways such as “dear”, “girl”, “boy”, “bro”, “dude”
- Posting inappropriate remarks or humor (remember that humor often offends in subtle ways)
- Diminishing the work of others (e.g., “if you were smart like me you would have finished in an hour;”)

Academic integrity
Office of the Dean of Students policy

University standards
Office of the Dean of Students website

Compliance
You are expected to comply immediately when asked to stop unacceptable behavior. Non-compliance will be reported to the Director of Graduate or Undergraduate Studies, and possibly the Dean of Students and the Office for Access and Equity

Reporting
If you experience or witness a breach of our Code of Conduct, report to a TA, faculty or staff member. We commit to addressing behaviors that do not follow our Code of Conduct. As mandatory reporters, faculty/staff will report allegations of sexual misconduct, unlawful discrimination, or harassment to our Title IX Coordinator.

Adopted November 2020