

Your college professors will ask you to complete a variety of assignments, some of which will involve working with other students collaboratively in a group. For some assignments, however, collaboration is not permitted, and the work must be completed individually. It is important to understand the differences between group and individual assignments so you can maintain academic integrity.

	Group Assignments	Individual Assignments
Who is involved?	Two or more students. Each student will usually receive the same mark.	Completed by you alone. The mark received is based on your work.
Expectations	Each student contributes equally to a group assignment. If there is a breakdown in group communication or group process, you are expected to inform your professor.	You do your own research and compile your own submission. No other person or group should contribute to its completion.
How do you know?	At times, professors will encourage group work but not require it. Confirm with your professor whether working in a group is permitted.	Individual assignments are always completed by one student – you. If you are ever unsure about assignment instructions, ask your professor.
Should you share?	Groups are required to share files, work together, discuss research findings, and write the final report together.	You must not share files with other students for individual assignments. The penalty for academic integrity breaches is the same for students who share their work or copy from others.
How can you help another student?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend they speak with their professor • Answer questions or direct them to resources that can help • Demonstrate how to solve a problem • Describe how to find something/do something • Tell them that sharing a file is breaching academic integrity and that both of you will face consequences 	

Maintaining academic integrity is each student's responsibility. Ask your professor for clarification if you are ever unsure about how to maintain academic integrity.