



OK! or NOT OK? Collusion versus Collaboration



*"The only form of cheating I have engaged in ... is where you have an out-of-class study group but *gradually* the conversation moves from abstract discussion of content into swapping specific tips or solutions to get a specific question done."*

NOT OK!



Collusion is when students share work that is used for assessment in order to **deceive**.



Using someone else's work, words or ideas as your own is a kind of fraud. It misrepresents your abilities, gives you a **mark you haven't earned**, and an unfair advantage over your peers. **Allowing someone else to use your work** in this way is also collusion.



Working together on any piece of **assessed work** is likely to be collusion, unless it's explicitly been set as a group assessment.

OK!



Collaboration is a learning activity whereby students work in groups to research, discuss ideas and bring different perspectives to the **understanding** of a topic or problem.



A **group assessment** will require collaboration, but will always make clear how your **individual input** will be assessed and graded.



If in doubt, **ask!**

Don't risk it:



Don't post your work to document-sharing sites.



Complete assessments on your own.



Always reference your sources.

Remember:

Students who allow another student to copy their work are also committing **collusion**. This includes work shared on online document-sharing sites.

Both the copier **and** the provider of the work are committing academic malpractice.

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