Coding Policy (The policy may be updated as needed)

1. You will read and follow our Academic Integrity Policy.
2. We expect you to be professional and to thoroughly check and appreciate Copyrights.
    - Note that Logos, typeface, source code are just a few examples that you MUST check for copyrights.
    - What is **Trade Dress Infringement**? Why does it matter to you?
3. If applicable, observe MOUs.

Development.

1. Always ask yourself: is my code reliable?
2. Choose meaningful variable names.
3. Use blank lines to separate conceptual sections.
4. At the top of your code, provide, as a comment, the name of your file.
5. Observe Modular programming
6. Read: Can You Explain Your Code?
7. Use upper case to name your constants.
8. Check if it is preferable to create a class constant so it is available to multiple methods inside a class.
9. Make effective use of comments.
    a) Acknowledgements: always add, as a comment at the top of your code, any additional resources that helped you solve the problem. However,
        - do not use real, full students' names or Grinnell email addresses. In case you are leaving a note for yourself or another team member, adopt and use nick names.
    b) Use references with responsibility and observe copyrights.
    c) Right below the acknowledgements, add a paragraph describing what your code does.
    d) List/document the additional tools/technologies required to run your project.
10. Run and use the appropriate tools for testing.
11. Labs: you must stick to the programming language required by your instructor.
12. You MUST observe the best practices for all programming languages and tools used in your projects.

Acknowledgements

Parts of this section inspired by the C Primer Plus book by Stephen Prata.

Important Safety and Security Considerations (adapted from Dr. Barbara Johnson's website):

1. **Especially when creating the individual and group projects**, DO NOT:
    - list the courses you have taken or publish any information about your academic record!
    - Post your phone number.
2. If you are using GitHub, you are welcome to make your GitHub repo private. Read more about repository visibility and remember to add viewers as needed.
3. **Recommendation**: use a non-identifiable name as your username whenever using a third-party service.
4. When using third party services in this class, you may use a non-Grinnell email address.

5. Online tools/platforms: do not use or submit personal or academic info, e.g., class name/number, assignment name, etc.).
6. If you are commenting code, do not use real, full names or Grinnell email addresses. In case you are leaving a note for yourself or another team member, adopt and use nick names.
7. Your team should adopt a team name and might create a temporary email address (or alias) that will be used for deploying and managing your team's app during the course rather than using Grinnell emails for collaborators.
8. NEVER put AWS keys (or similar) into a file!
9. When the semester is done, remember to delete accounts created during the course.
10. Things NOT to commit to GitHub
    - Try to avoid uploading real data to a repo, even if encrypted. Other files might be uploadable, if they are properly secured.
    - "Real data"? Yours or that of your community partners. Make sure that live databases are ignored by GitHub (use .gitignore)
    - Keys to APIs
    - Login credentials