

PLAGIARISM:

What is it?

Whose Responsibility is It?

What Are the Consequences?

A Brief Guide

Department of Management

CBPA, CSUSB

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Plagiarism is a Serious Problem in Academia

“A study of almost 4,500 students at 25 schools, suggests cheating is . . . a significant problem in high school - 74% of the respondents admitted to one or more instances of serious test cheating and **72% admitted to serious cheating on written assignments. Over half of the students admitted they have engaged in some level of plagiarism on written assignments using the Internet.”**

Based on the research of Donald L. McCabe, Rutgers University.

Source: “CIA Research.” Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 2003

http://academicintegrity.org/cai_research.asp.

The Student's Responsibility

- A student should be clear that work submitted for a grade in the class must be **original work**.
- It is the responsibility of the student to become fully acquainted with what constitutes **plagiarism**.
- A student can check his/her writing in Turnitin.com to see whether material shows us that he/she may have advertently or unknowingly used that is not their own. (However, it is up to the instructor to determine plagiarized material)
- The student must correct the error with an appropriate citation.

Instructor's Responsibility

The Instructor is responsible for drawing a conclusion regarding whether the amount of improperly attributed or unattributed material is so significant that intent may be presumed.

Excuses Won't Work

*Others are doing
it in this class,
so why can't I?*

My classmates
Are going to
Berkeley
& I want to go
Too!

*College is too
expensive these
days so I must show a
good return on
my investment!*

The
teacher
treated me
unfairly,
so I feel
O.K. doing
it!

My job takes up too
much time, plus I am a
caregiver to my younger siblings

*My parents
expect "A"s!*



Students sometimes claim

“Accidental” or “Unintentional Plagiarism”-- What is This?

- Not knowing how/when to cite sources
- Plagiarism vs. paraphrasing
- Careless paraphrasing
- Uncertainty over what is a fact or common knowledge
- Not knowing what constitutes research
- Quoting excessively
- Different view of plagiarism based on cultural background
- **NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to become fully acquainted with what constitutes plagiarism**

Disciplinary Consequences

- See pages 53-54, “*Plagiarism and Cheating*” CSUSB University Catalog/Bulletin for violations and consequences.

Pay Attention to Avoiding Even the Appearance of Plagiarism

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?: It is use of the following without giving credit to:

- another person's idea, opinion, or theory;
- any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings, and audio extractions from another's work;
- Any information that is not in the realm of common knowledge;
- quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words;
- paraphrasing another person's spoken or written words without giving credit.

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to become fully acquainted with what constitutes plagiarism

What is Plagiarism, Contd. ?

- Plagiarism occurs when a student produces writing, with the intention to mislead the Instructor into thinking a piece of work, a portion of that work, or an idea or theory is their own original thought.
- Proper scholarly procedures require that, at a minimum, all quoted material be identified by quotation marks or indentation on the page, and the source of information and ideas, if from another's work, be identified and be attributed to that source.
- **NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to become fully acquainted with what constitutes plagiarism**

Examples

- Some examples of Plagiarism follow

How to Recognize Unacceptable and Acceptable Paraphrases

“Here’s the ORIGINAL text, from page 1 of *Lizzie Borden: A Case Book of Family and Crime in the 1890s* by Joyce Williams et al.:

- The rise of industry, the growth of cities, and the expansion of the population were the three great developments of late nineteenth century American history. As new, larger, steam-powered factories became a feature of the American landscape in the East, they transformed farm hands into industrial laborers, and provided jobs for a rising tide of immigrants. With industry came urbanization the growth of large cities (like Fall River, Massachusetts, where the Bordens lived) which became the centers of production as well as of commerce and trade.

Here’s an UNACCEPTABLE paraphrase that is plagiarism:

- The increase of industry, the growth of cities, and the explosion of the population were three large factors of nineteenth century America. As steam-driven companies became more visible in the eastern part of the country, they changed farm hands into factory workers and provided jobs for the large wave of immigrants. With industry came the growth of large cities like Fall River where the Bordens lived which turned into centers of commerce and trade as well as production.”

This example is taken from Indiana University’s Testing quoted from *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct* By action of the University Faculty Council (April 12, 2005) and the Trustees of Indiana University (June 24, 2005).

Why Might this Passage Constitute Plagiarism?

“This is a clear example of plagiarism because the writer has:

- 1) Failed to write in his/her own words, and has merely changed around a few words and phrases, or changed the order of the original’s sentences.
- 2) the writer has failed to cite a source for any of the ideas or facts.”

This example is taken from Indiana University’s Testing quoted from *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, By action of the University Faculty Council (April 12, 2005) and the Trustees of Indiana University (June 24, 2005).)

What is an Acceptable Paraphrase?

“Here is an example of an acceptable paraphrase:

Fall River, where the Borden family lived, was typical of northeastern industrial cities of the nineteenth century. Steam-powered production had shifted labor from agriculture to manufacturing, and as immigrants arrived in the US, they found work in these new factories. As a result, populations grew, and large urban areas arose. Fall River was one of these manufacturing and commercial centers (Williams 1).

Reasons for this passage being acceptable:

- This is acceptable paraphrasing because the writer:
- accurately relays the information in the original uses her own words.
- lets her reader know the source of her information.

Another example of quotation and paraphrase used together, which is also ACCEPTABLE:

Fall River, where the Borden family lived, was typical of northeastern industrial cities of the nineteenth century. As steam-powered production shifted labor from agriculture to manufacturing, the demand for workers "transformed farm hands into industrial laborers," and created jobs for immigrants. In turn, growing populations increased the size of urban areas. Fall River was one of these hubs "which became the centers of production as well as of commerce and trade" (Williams 1)."

This example is taken from Indiana University's Testing quoted from *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct* By action of the University Faculty Council (April 12, 2005) and the Trustees of Indiana University (June 24, 2005).

Is This Plagiarism?

YES!

You read:

“Nineteen percent of full-time freshmen say they spend only 1 to 5 hours per week preparing for classes...”

You write:

Nineteen percent of full-time freshmen say they spend only 1 to 5 hours per week preparing for classes.

From: Young, Jeffrey R. *Homework? What Homework?* Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 (15).12/6/2002.

Is this Plagiarism?



YES!

You read:

"Students are studying about one-third as much as faculty say they ought to, to do well," said George D. Kuh, director of the survey and a professor of higher education at Indiana University at Bloomington.

You write:

Most students spend about one-third as much time studying as faculty say they should.

From: Young, Jeffrey R. *Homework? What Homework?* Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 (15).12/6/2002

Is This Plagiarism?

NO!

You read:

"Students are studying about one-third as much as faculty say they ought to, to do well," said George D. Kuh, director of the survey and a professor of higher education at Indiana University at Bloomington.

You write:

According to George D. Kuh, Indiana University at Bloomington, students study about one-third of the time that is expected

From: Young, Jeffrey R. *Homework? What Homework?* Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 (15).12/6/2002

Is this Plagiarism?

No!

No! As Long as you have included the Young article in your reference list you have cited properly.

You read:

“The tip given most consistently by professors and college officials is that students should simply do their homework. The most commonly prescribed amount is at least two hours of class preparation for every hour spent in the classroom...”

You write:

College students should do their homework.

From: Young, Jeffrey R. *Homework? What Homework?* Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 (15).12/6/2002

Is this Plagiarism?

No!

No! Commonly known facts or ideas do not have to be cited.
(Can you find this information in at least five sources?)

You read:

“The tip given most consistently by professors and college officials is that students should simply do their homework. The most commonly prescribed amount is at least two hours of class preparation for every hour spent in the classroom...”

You write:

College students should do their homework.

From: Young, Jeffrey R. *Homework? What Homework?* Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 (15).12/6/2002

Audio-Visual Information

- **Plagiarism and Audio-Visual Information**
- Copying graphics , pictures or other visual or audio information from an Internet site or from a printed source should be cited in the same way you cite plain text.
- **NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to become fully acquainted with what constitutes plagiarism**

Using Images

Cite the Source of the
Image you Are Placing
onto Your Paper



Source for this slide:
Young, Jeffrey R., Homework? What Homework?
Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 (15).12/6/2002.

Your Title Page

**Should we or shouldn't we protect
the gray wolf?**

By Ima Lamb

Eng 110

Apr. 1, 2004

Source for Picture: Gray wolf (*Canis lupus*).

© Jeff Lepore/Photo Researchers

Wolf. Encyclopædia Britannica. Retrieved March 31,
2004, from Encyclopædia Britannica Online.

<<http://search.eb.com/eb/article?eu=79400>>

Step-by-Step Approach to Avoid Plagiarism

- 1. Put in **quotations** everything that comes directly from the text, and give the text reference.
- 2. **Paraphrase**, but be sure you are not just rearranging or replacing a few words. Try this tactic: close the textbook so you can't see any of it. Write out the idea in your own words. Cite your source
- 3. **Check your paraphrase** against the original text to be sure you have not accidentally used the same phrases or words, and that the information is accurate.
- **NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the student to become fully acquainted with what constitutes plagiarism

What is Common Knowledge?

- **Common knowledge:** facts that can be found in numerous places and are likely to be known by a lot of people.

Example: Barack Obama was elected President of the United States in 2009. This is generally known information. **You do not need to document this fact.**

- **However, you must document facts that are not generally known and ideas that interpret facts.**

Example: According Jay M. Shafritz, in *Introducing Public Administration*, public administration is about law in action, as well as an essay contest. The idea that public administration requires good writing and analytical skills is an *interpretation*. Thus, a citation of Professor Shafritz' work is necessary.

Quotations & Paraphrasing

- **“Quotation:** using someone’s words. When you quote, place the passage you are using in quotation marks, and document the source according to a standard documentation style.
- The following example uses the Modern Language Association’s style:
- Example: According to Peter S. Pritchard in USA Today, “Public schools need reform but they’re irreplaceable in teaching all the nation’s young” (14).
- **Paraphrase:** using someone’s ideas, but putting them in your own words. This is probably the skill you will use most when incorporating sources into your writing. Although you use your own words to paraphrase, you must still acknowledge the source of the information.”

Note: Produced by Writing Tutorial Services, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, n/date.

Some Funny Things May Happen When you Plagiarize—But Plagiarism is **NO** Laughing Matter

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