

What Constitutes Plagiarism?

No honest scholar wishes to be guilty of the intellectual crime of PLAGIARISM, even unintentionally. Therefore, we provide you with these guidelines so that you don't accidentally fall into the plagiarism trap.

Plagiarism is the taking of someone else's words, work, or ideas, and passing them off as a product of your own efforts. Plagiarism may occur when a person fails to place quotation marks around someone else's exact words, directly or very closely rephrasing or paraphrasing someone else's words while still following the general form of the original, and/or failing to issue the proper citation to one's source material.

In student papers, plagiarism is often due to...

1. turning in someone else's paper as one's own
2. using another person's data or ideas without acknowledgment
3. failing to cite a written source (printed or internet) of information that you used to collect data or ideas
4. copying an author's exact words and putting them in the paper without quotation marks
5. rephrasing an author's words and failing to cite the source
6. copying, rephrasing, or quoting an author's exact words and citing a source other than where the material was obtained. (For example, using a secondary source which cites the original material, but citing only the primary material. This misrepresents the nature of the scholarship involved in creating the paper. If you have not read an original publication, do not cite it in your references as if you have read it.)
7. using wording that is very similar to that of the original source, but passing it off as one's own.

The last item is probably the most common problem in student writing. ***It is still plagiarism if the student uses an author's key phrases or sentences in a way that implies they are his/her own, even if s/he cites the source.***

Pay heed to these guidelines and make sure your papers and academic works are truly YOUR intellectual property.

I certify that I have read and understood these guidelines, and will not commit plagiarism on any work in this course.

Printed Name: _____

Signature

Date