

Avoiding Plagiarism Guide

Definition

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as your own (Academic Honor Policy, 2022).

- *Intentional Plagiarism*: Sam copies—and—pastes from Wikipedia to finish their essay faster.
- *Unintentional Plagiarism*: Sam forgets where their word-for-word notes came from and doesn’t cite the original authors.
 - Intended or not, engaging in plagiarism is a violation of the Academic Honor Policy.

Advice

- Ask instructors/teaching assistants or FSU tutors if they would read your drafts and source materials two weeks before any deadlines.
- Review these ideas and practice these skills:

<u>Opinions</u> vs. <u>Facts</u>		<u>Quoting</u> & <u>Paraphrasing</u>
<p>Our opinions don’t require...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Agreement – Evidence – Permanence – <u>Reliability</u> – <u>Validity</u> <p style="text-align: center;">Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>History is easier for me to understand than math.</i> ▪ <i>I think it’s better to live near the Stadium.</i> <p>Tip: If you’re sharing your own opinion, then you don’t need to <u>cite</u> or reference it. The opinions of others still require citation!</p>	<p>Facts require things like...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Accuracy – Certainty – Confirmation – <u>Empiricism</u> – <u>Impartiality</u> <p style="text-align: center;">Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>FSU has a campus located in Tallahassee.</i> ▪ <i>Some FSU professors use Canvas to host their classes.</i> <p>Tip: You will likely need to cite & reference facts for various reasons — unless the facts are <u>commonly known</u>.*</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How to write exactly what someone else said/wrote</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put “quotation marks” at the beginning & end of the quote. 2. Read your syllabus or ask your instructor what <u>citation style</u> to use. 3. Cite the source of information according to that citation style. 4. Create a reference list containing all your sources at the end of your paper (based on the required citation style). <p style="text-align: center;">How to re-word an idea yet keep a similar meaning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practice changing the wording verbally / out loud. 2. Use <u>synonyms</u> that would match your audience & goals. 3. Rethink & change the <u>sentence structure</u>(s). 4. Compare your new phrasing to the original text to ensure that you’ve <u>properly paraphrased</u>. 5. Cite the source based on the required citation style & add it to your reference list.

*If someone has gathered/organized commonly known facts, their efforts still require citation!

Resources

- ✓ Your instructor — the *ideal* resource — or the course’s teaching assistant(s)
- ✓ The Reading-Writing Center
- ✓ The Academic Center for Excellence
- ✓ FSU Libraries’ Citation Guides, Citation Generators, & Citation Management Programs
- ✓ iThenticate – A tool that checks for similarities between papers

Access the resources via this QR Code

