

# Plagiarism and the IWU Student



## You may be saying . . .

- ▶... I've been hearing about plagiarism since I was in preschool!
- ▶... of course I know it's wrong and I could get in trouble for it.
- ▶Why cover it again?

# Why? Because plagiarism is still a big problem in academia

- ▶ There still is the old fashioned copying text from a book.
- ▶ It is easy to plagiarize because of online articles from library databases and internet web sites. Simply copy and paste!
- ▶ Graphics are so easy to import into papers or PowerPoint presentations.

# Why? Because plagiarism is still a big problem in academia

- ▶ It is s-o-o easy to buy a paper from online “paper mills.” All you need is a credit card.
- ▶ Or, to be a bit more creative, piece together a variety of sources and pass it off as your own writing.
- ▶ Or, when life gets so busy, just use a paper from a previous course (yours or a friend’s paper).

So, let's cover it again... and maybe we can better understand its importance

▶ Plagiarism explained:

“Whether paraphrasing, quoting an author directly, or describing an idea that influenced your work, you must credit the source”  
(American Psychological Association, 2009, p. 170).

# Plagiarizing includes

- ▶ Directly quoting without changing any of the words but giving no credit to the writer.
- ▶ Paraphrasing, changing many of the words, but not the main thought, concept, etc., of the author.
- ▶ Taking something on the same topic that was written by someone else and passing it off as your own.
- ▶ Can you think of other ways of plagiarizing?

# What about self-plagiarizing?

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Absolutely, using a paper that you previously submitted to another school or class is also a form of plagiarizing! It is **self-plagiarizing**.

Taking a substantial portion of previous writing needs two things:

1. Permission from your instructor that this is allowed.
2. Providing an in text citation and references entry for your own work.

# Preventing plagiarism

- ▶ Use a writing style, such as APA, as it gives a methodology for correct use of direct quotes and paraphrasing.
- ▶ Learn when it is appropriate to use direct quotes and when it is better to paraphrase.
- ▶ Learn what correct paraphrasing involves.



# How to paraphrase correctly

- ▶ It is not enough to substitute a few different words in something that someone else has written. This is referred to as the “*thesaurus method*.” **The thesaurus method is not acceptable.**
- ▶ A good method is to read the passage, then lay it aside and try to rewrite the idea using your own words.

# Using a writing style (APA)

- ▶ The writing style is designed for academic writing where it is an expectation that you will be using sources (experts) in your discipline rather than just personal opinions.
- ▶ Provides a “formula” for in text citations and for full bibliographic information about the sources used.

## Sources to help with APA

⊖ Your APA Manual.

⊖ *APA 6e Guide*, available from <http://www2.indwes.edu/ocls>

▶ Click on: [APA Style](#)

▶ Click on: [APA 6e Guide](#)

# Sources to help with APA

## ⊖ APA Style CENTRAL

⊖ Interactive, self-learning tool for APA understanding and APA writing.

⊖ Available from the OCLS home page.

# When to cite

- ▶ Words, facts or ideas that are taken from any kind of source!
- ▶ Any information obtained through talking to someone else.
- ▶ Word for word reproduction of a phrase or concept.
- ▶ Reproduction of any kind of visual material.
- ▶ Reproduction of any kind of electronic media.
- ▶ Writing from a previous paper.

(Stolley & Brizee, 2010)

## When do you not need to cite

- ▶ When writing about personal experience, your own thoughts or conclusions.
- ▶ Using your own artwork, digital media or photographs.
- ▶ Using generally accepted facts, such as, “eating fruits and vegetables promotes healthy living.”

(Stolley & Brizee, 2010)

# When do you not need to cite

- ▶ Anything considered common knowledge, such as common sense observations, myths, urban legends, historical dates, etc.
  - ⊖ If you see something in at least five other sources then it might be considered common knowledge.
- ▶ When in doubt—cite!

(Stolley & Brizee, 2010)

# Avoiding plagiarism

- ▶ Good research involves consulting the experts. Provide a complete in text citation and entry in the References. (You are not plagiarizing as long as you cite correctly.)
- ▶ Cite whenever you quote word for word.
- ▶ Cite when you paraphrase.
- ▶ Use as much original writing as is possible.



# IWU consequences for plagiarism

- ▶ Check your current IWU Catalog for penalties related to plagiarism  
<http://www.indwes.edu/catalog/>

# Questions? Contact OCLS

▶ Off Campus Library Services (OCLS) can provide assistance in locating appropriate databases, defining a search and helping obtain articles.

▶ Contact Information

⊖ <http://www2.indwes.edu/ocls>

⊖ Call: 800-521-1848

⊖ <http://www.indwes.edu/forms/request.aspx>

# Websites to help with practice in paraphrasing

- ▶ <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/> (Several parts, including some exercises)
- ▶ <http://faculty.goucher.edu/writingprogram/sgarrett/Default.html> (Paraphrase quiz)
- ▶ You can find a lot more by doing a Google search for: plagiarism exercises; plagiarism and academic writing, etc.
- ▶ Read in your APA Manual on plagiarism, quoting and paraphrasing.

# References

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American Psychological Association. (2009).

*Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, D. C.: Author.

Stolley, K., & Brizee, A. (2010, October 26).

Avoiding plagiarism. Retrieved from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/owlprint/589/>