

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 colleges

- ▶ The “old fashioned way”: copying text from a book.
- ▶ The “new way”: copying and pasting from online articles, library databases, and internet web sites.
- ▶ Importing graphics into papers or PowerPoint presentations and passing them off as yours.

Why? Because plagiarism is still a big problem in colleges

- ▶ It is s-o-o easy to buy a paper from an online “paper mill.” All you need is a credit card handy.
- ▶ 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 the writer no credit.
- ▶ Paraphrasing (changing some or many of the words), but not the author's main thought, concept, etc.
- ▶ 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?

Preventing Plagiarism

- ▶ Use a writing style, such as APA. Writing styles have rules for using direct quotes and paraphrases correctly.
- ▶ Learn when it is appropriate to use direct quotes, when it is better to paraphrase, and when to summarize.
- ▶ Learn what correct paraphrasing and summarizing involves.

How to Paraphrase Correctly

- ▶ Paraphrasing is more than substituting a few different words into something another person 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.

Use a Writing Style

- ▶ Writing styles are designed for academic writing. You are expected to use sources (expert information) from your discipline rather than just giving personal opinion.
- ▶ Writing styles provide “formulas” for in text citations, footnotes, and complete bibliographic information about the sources you used to write your paper.

APA Helps

▶ Sources to help with APA

⊖ Your APA Manual

⊖ *OCLS APA 6e Guide:*

<https://ocls.indwes.edu/apa/APA6eGuide.pdf>

APA Documentation

- ⊖ Call IWU's Off Campus Library Services (OCLS) for answers to specific questions about APA
 - ⊖ 1-800-521-1848 or email ocls@indwes.edu
 - ⊖ Online Request Form: <https://ocls.indwes.edu/forms/request.aspx>

APA Documentation

⊖ Use Academic Writer, an APA-created software tool available FREE to Indiana Wesleyan Students

⊖ Academic Writer Basics Video:
<https://indwes.libguides.com/tutorials/academicwriter#awbasics>

What To Document

- ▶ Words or ideas that you take from any kind of source (book, ebook, article, website, etc.)
 - ▶ Any information you obtain through talking to someone else (interviews, emails, company documents).
 - ▶ Direct Quotation: Word-for-word reproduction of a phrase or concept.
 - ▶ Reproduction of any kind of visual material (figures, graphics, images, or tables).
 - ▶ Reproduction of any kind of electronic media.
- (Stolley & Brizee, 2010)

What You Do Not Need to Document

- ▶ Personal experiences, your own thoughts, or your own conclusions.
- ▶ Your own artwork, digital media, or photographs.
- ▶ Generally accepted facts, such as, “eating fruits and vegetables promotes healthy living.”

(Stolley & Brizee, 2010)

What You Do Not Need to Document

- ▶ Anything considered common knowledge: 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)

Paraphrasing Help

- ▶ Purdue OWL Paraphrasing Exercises:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/using_research/paraphrase_exercises/paraphrasing_exercise.html
- ▶ Plagiarism by Paraphrase Risk Quiz:
<http://faculty.goucher.edu/writingprogram/sgarrett/Default.html>
- ▶ Search online for: plagiarism exercises; plagiarism and academic writing, etc.
- ▶ Read the APA Manual sections on plagiarism, quoting, and paraphrasing.

Avoiding Plagiarism

- ▶ Cite whenever you quote word for word. Include page or paragraph numbers, or section headers as part of your in text citation.
- ▶ Cite when you paraphrase. APA format does not require page or paragraph numbers for paraphrases, but it is courteous to include this information.
- ▶ Use as much original writing as is possible.

Avoiding Plagiarism

- ▶ Good research involves consulting the experts. For APA Style papers, include an in text citation and matching References List entry.
- ▶ (You are not plagiarizing as long as you cite correctly.)

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) is here to help you with your research. We can get you to the best databases to use, help you figure out the best search terms, and help you get articles and other resources.
- ▶ Contact OCLS
 - ⊖ Website: <https://ocls.indwes.edu/>
 - ⊖ Phone: 800-521-1848
 - ⊖ Request Form:
<https://ocls.indwes.edu/forms/request.aspx>

References

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, D.C.: Author.

Stolley, K., & Brizee, A. (2010, October 26). Avoiding plagiarism. Retrieved from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/owlprint/589/>