What Students Should Know About Plagiarism

Thursday, March 16 @ 8 pm ET
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Kaplan University Writing Center

Please click here to view this recorded webinar: http://khe2.adobeconnect.com/p8m8pr9wm5z/
Agenda

- Defining Plagiarism
- Preventing Plagiarism
- Top 10 Plagiarism Errors
- KUWC Resources
Defining Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is using a source without giving proper credit both in the text and in a reference list, misrepresenting ideas as original when they belong to sources.
- Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional, but it still has the same effect.

Defining Plagiarism

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How serious is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense that impacts a student's integrity. Because plagiarism is seen as academic dishonesty, a student who plagiarizes (whether intentionally or unintentionally) jeopardizes his or her credibility.
Preventing Plagiarism

The good news is that plagiarism can be prevented. Recognizing the types of plagiarism is a good first step in preventing plagiarism. Once a writer recognizes the types of plagiarism, she or he can review helpful resources to protect more fully against plagiarizing.
Buying/Using Someone Else’s Work

• Copying a classmate’s work or buying a paper online from a “study support” site
• Solutions
  - Give yourself enough time to start early.
  - Make sure to visit the Writing Center early and often.

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Missing Quotation Marks

- Quoting anywhere from part of a sentence to parts of a paragraph without quotation marks
- Solutions
  - When taking notes, make sure to put quotation marks around borrowed text from a source.
  - In case it is difficult to remember whether part of the paper needs quotation marks or not, do a search through the sources or through a search engine using a unique phrase from the material.

Missing Quotation Marks

Quoting anywhere from part of a sentence to parts of a paragraph without quotation marks

Solutions

When taking notes, make sure to put quotation marks around quotable text from a source.

In case it is difficult to remember whether part of the paper needs quotation marks or not, do a search through the sources or through a search engine using a unique phrase from the material.
Copiously Quoting

Quoting (even with proper citations) too frequently

Solutions

- Paraphrase as a default and save quoting for when the language of the quotation is so precise that it cannot be paraphrased effectively.
- Make sure that most of your paper includes your original thoughts on the subject.

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Missing Reference List

Missing some or all of the full reference citations for the sources used in the text

Solutions

- Write citations the first time a source is used in the text, continuing to write in-text citations while drafting when sources are used.
- Double check that all in-text citations match reference page citations.
Missing In-text Citations

- Forgetting an in-text citation or forgetting an idea belongs to a source
- Solutions
  - Keep notes in a form that clearly distinguishes your ideas from your source’s ideas (like a Double Entry Journal).
  - Type in-text citations while drafting or type placeholders (like “Add citation for Source X”) to avoid hunting for sentences needing citations later.

Missing In-text Citations

Forgetting an in-text citation or forgetting an idea belongs to a source

Solutions

  Keep notes in a form that clearly distinguishes your ideas from your source’s ideas (like a Double Entry Journal).

  Type an in-text citation while drafting or type a placeholder (like “Add citation for Source X”) to keep from hunting for sentences needing citations later.
Not Citing with Every Use

Using a source, citing it, and continuing to use ideas from the source without citing at the end of every sentence

Solution

- As you reread your paper, ask yourself after each sentence, “Does this sentence include ideas from an outside source, requiring a citation?”
- Review “Citing Paraphrased Work in APA Style”

Citing a paragraph that is largely paraphrased material from an outside source can be tricky, but one way to properly attribute the information you have borrowed from other sources is to use a combination of signal phrases and parenthetical citations. To see how to do so, please see this APA Style Blog article, “Citing Paraphrased Work in APA Style”: http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2011/03/citing-paraphrased-work-in-apa-style.html Be sure to read the comments to see examples! Enjoy!
Patchwork Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing but not thoroughly, e.g. “synonym” method

Solutions
- Paraphrase thoroughly every time.
- If there are short phrases appearing in a sentence word-for-word from the source, use quotation marks around the phrases, even if the entire sentence is not quoted.
- Always put quotation marks around borrowed language of any length and cite the source.
Assuming Common Knowledge

Using a piece of information within a field and confusing it with common knowledge (knowledge logically assumed to be held by the audience already).

Solution
- Always use quotation marks for word-for-word definitions or facts and cite the source.
- Check the characteristics of common knowledge to be sure.

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Solution
Always use quotation marks for word-for-word definitions or facts and cite the source.
Check the characteristics of common knowledge to be sure.
Misunderstanding the Assignment

- Thinking that because an assignment is just for a discussion board or just uses the textbook there is no need for citing the sources
- Solution: Always use and cite sources according to the assignment and in keeping with university policy.
Self-plagiarism

- Re-using previous work when inappropriate

- Solutions
  - Make a composition completely new and unique to the purpose of the course being taken.
  - Ask the professor before writing about the same topic again in the term.
  - Revise drafts thoroughly from one draft to another, taking into account feedback from peers, tutors, and the professor.

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Resources for Solutions to All 10 Errors

Self-Plagiarism
Understanding Assignments
Understanding Citation
Paraphrasing Video
APA Style Blog

Common Citations in APA
Reference List Video
80/20 Guideline Podcast
Basic Citation Guidelines
Academic Honesty Policy

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Come visit the Academic Support Center. We can be found under the My Studies tab, then under Academic Support Center.
You will find more citation and plagiarism resources under the heading Manage Your Studies and Time (Citation (APA and More) and Plagiarism Information). Other Writing Center services include Connect with a Tutor, Submit a Paper or Question, Webinars, and more. Notice, you can access the Kaplan Guide to Successful Writing on the left hand side in both print and audio form.
Contact Information
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Survey Link
Workshops are recorded and recording links, with an accompanying PowerPoint, are posted on the Writing Center Workshops page and in the ASC Webinar Calendar after the workshop.

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