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**ECOMP 6202**

**06/20/2010**

**What Is Plagiarism?**

In instructional settings, plagiarism is a multifaceted and ethically complex problem. However, if any definition of plagiarism is to be helpful to administrators, faculty, and students, it needs to be as simple and direct as possible within the context for which it is intended.

***Definition:****In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. (Council of Writing Program Administrators)*

**Why Do Students Plagiarize?**

* Out to get a degree, not an education
* Pressure to maintain a high GPA at any cost
* View that any course outside their major is a waste of time
* Time pressures or poor time management skills
* Fear that their own writing is not good enough
* Lack of research skills
* Confusion between plagiarism and paraphrasing; belief that if you copy from several sources and combine them, it's not plagiarism--it's research!
* "Everyone does it"
* Thrill of beating the system
* Confusion about terminology -- "Terminology is another problem that perplexes students and compounds their confusion and anxiety. Many do not understand the difference between a report and an essay, between exposition and argumentation, between a theme and a thesis And 'analyze' and 'discuss' must surely rank at the top of the list of all-time confusing terms"
* Careless note taking -- many students inadvertently plagiarize while doing preliminary research. During the note taking phase paraphrased material and directly quoted material can easily be mixed up if students aren't careful. At a later date when students begin writing their essay they may no longer be able to distinguish what material is theirs and what material came from their sources. In addition, the student may have written incomplete or incorrect bibliographic information and cannot locate the source they quoted to ensure that they have not plagiarized.
* Confusion about how to properly cite sources -- the lack of consistency among the different style guides compounds the problems that students experience when citing sources. A student can use up to four different style guides in a year, and each guide may give conflicting information.

In addition, online sources can be particularly difficult to cite. First, there is no consensus among the style guides about citing online sources. Second, URLs are unstable. It is possible that a Web site address can change overnight, or the URL may be long, complex, and confusing.

**The Different Types of Plagiarism**

The Poor Disguise: What the writers do in this type of plagiarism is they change how the source looks like by altering the phrases and keywords, while keeping the significant content.

The Ghost Writer:  In this type of plagiarism, the work of another is copied verbatim, and passes it off as the writer’s own.

The Photocopy: This is the type of plagiarism in which important parts of a particular work of another person are copied by the writer without changing anything.

 The Potluck Paper is what you call the type of plagiarism in which the sentences that are taken from various sources are altered so that they would fit together, while the original phrasing is retained. These are done in an attempt to conceal plagiarism.

The Self-Stealer: In self-stealer, the writer borrows, not from other person’s works, but from his or her prior works. This is a violation of the policies regarding the originality expectation that is adopted by nearly all of the academic sectors.

The Labor of Laziness: Here, rather than spending so much effort in doing the original work, the writer spends his or her time rephrasing the sentences from other works and making them fit together.

The Mis-Informer: A type of plagiarism wherein finding the sources are not possible because the information given regarding the source is wrong

The Forgotten Footnote: Though the author’s name is mentioned as a source, the particular details about the location of the source are disregarded. By hiding the locations of the source, the plagiarist is trying to cover up the many forms of plagiarism.

The Perfect Crime: The writer gives sources to only some of the information, and rephrases the other sentences without sources. The writer presents the rephrased words as his or her own evaluation. (Plagiarism Search, WEA)

**Detecting Plagiarism on the Web**

A large percentage of student plagiarism appears to be coming from the Web because searching, copying, and pasting are so easy. These strategies focus on finding information taken from the Web.

USE A SEARCH ENGINE, LIKE [**www.google.com**](http://www.google.com), TO FIND OUT IF STUDENTS HAVE HANDED IN PLAGIARIZED MATERIALS.  
Try typing in parenthesis:  
The first sentence of the paper.  
An unusual phrase or a string of words particular to the topic of the paper.

GO TO PLAGIARISM DETECTION SERVICES.  
[**www.canexus.com/eve**](http://www.canexus.com/eve)  
[**www.turnitin.com**](http://www.turnitin.com)  
[**www.plagiarism.com/INDEX.HTM**](http://www.plagiarism.com/INDEX.HTM)

LOOK AT ONLINE PAPER MILLS.  
Go to [**www.google.com**](http://www.google.com) and type in "free term papers"  
Or try: [**www.essayfinder.com**](http://www.essayfinder.com)  
[**www.CheatHouse.com**](http://www.CheatHouse.com)

The Role of Plagiarism Detection Software Plagiarism Prevention:

Plagiarism detection software is a valuable tool for teachers and students to use in creating and checking original work with the correct sentence structure, punctuation, the proper use of words. Just one of the detection software companies is called turnitin.

Turnitin Originality Checking allows educators to check students’ work for improper citation or potential plagiarism by comparing it against continuously updated databases. Every originality report provides Instructors with the opportunity to teach their students proper citation methods as well as to safeguard their students’ academic integrity. (University or Delaware Teaching and Learning)

WHS DE ONLINE

Introduction to Plagiarism

Welcome to WHS DE ONLINE. This course is designed to assist you as new drivers to become safe on the road and it is also based of helping you become responsible young adults. In order to be enrolled in this class, by NH Statute, learners must be a minimum of 151/2 years old and must be 16 years of age prior to the end of the class.

Part of becoming responsible is honesty and integrity. The following link is to an online quiz that will test your knowledge of Plagiarism. As part of the in-processing to my class you are required to take this test and send a copy to my email at [rhull@sau23.org](mailto:rhull@sau23.org)

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/quizzes30/svictor/plagairism.html>

As your Instructor for WHS DE ONLINE, I believe that honesty is the best policy. Students who have any questions or concerns please don’t hesitate to contact me. I am willing to help you in any way possible,

Cheating in any shape or form will not be tolerated and could be grounds for dismissal from this program.

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