

PLAGIARISM

ACADEMIC THEFT/ACADEMIC CHEATING

How do I avoid plagiarism?

- ❖ Gathering information/Note-taking
- ❖ Quoting
- ❖ Paraphrasing
- ❖ Summarizing
- ❖ Documenting source information

Gathering Information/Note-taking

- ❖ Make sure you understand the material. If you don't, you'll have trouble putting it into your own words.
- ❖ Decide immediately whether you are going to quote, paraphrase or summarize so that you record the information appropriately.
- ❖ Don't look at the source as you take notes. Read it, turn it over or look away and ask yourself:
What's the writer's point?
- ❖ Record the bibliographic information you will need to cite the source (title, author, page number, web site information, etc.)

Quoting

Using exact wording & quotation marks (to support own ideas)

Direct quotation creates a dramatic effect

- ❖ Should only be used when the ideas or expression are so uniquely and accurately presented that you don't want to alter them.
- ❖ All wording and punctuation should mirror the original.
- ❖ Should be introduced by a *signal phrase*.
- ❖ Original text is enclosed in quotation marks.
- ❖ Page source is identified.

Paraphrasing

Expressing another's ideas in your own words and sentence structure

- ❖ No direct statements are included.
- ❖ Original meaning must be conveyed in your own form of expression.
- ❖ Length is similar to the original.
- ❖ The source is cited.

WARNING! Rearranging an original sentence and using synonyms = plagiarism even if you include source information. Paraphrase must reflect original meaning & tone.

Summarizing

Significantly condensing source information in your own words.

- ❖ Words & sentence structure must be your own.
- ❖ Focuses on information directly related to your subject.
- ❖ Is shorter than the original because you are presenting main points, not details.
- ❖ The source is cited.

WARNING! Summary must reflect original meaning & tone.

Documenting source Information

- ❖ Check with your professor about which documentation style you should use.
- ❖ If you aren't familiar with documentation format, visit The Writing Center where a consultant can assist you.
- ❖ Common styles –
 - APA (American Psychological Association) – generally used in Science/Social Sciences
 - MLA (Modern Language Association) – generally used in Humanities
 - Turabian
 - Chicago
- ❖ Specialized styles –
 - AP (Associated Press) – Journalism/Mass media
 - CBE (Council of Biology Editors) – Biology
 - ACS (American Chemical Society) - Chemistry