

Plagiarism

How do you...

Develop a topic based on what has already been said and written

Write something new and original?

Rely on experts' opinions

BUT

Improve upon and/or disagree with those same opinions?

Give credit to previous researchers

Make your own significant contribution?

You must cite:

- Quotations—make sure you use “quotation marks”!
- Paraphrased material (if you take someone else’s idea and put it into your own words, you must cite it).
- A summary of someone else’s material (even if it’s in your own words!).
- Images

• **Intentional Plagiarism**

- Copying a friend’s work
- Buying or borrowing papers
- Cutting and pasting blocks of text from online sources without documenting
- “Borrowing” media without documentation

• **Unintentional Plagiarism**

- Careless paraphrasing
- Poor documentation
- Quoting excessively
- Failure to use your own “voice”

You do not have to cite:

- Your own thoughts/words/experiences
- Common knowledge (facts/things that are well-known by most people)

Source: Turnitin.com

Remember...

- Plagiarism is theft of intellectual property.
- Plagiarism is cheating.
- Plagiarism may result in receiving a failing grade or zero for the assignment.
- Plagiarism could result in a disciplinary referral.
- Students caught plagiarizing may be denied admittance to or removal from the National Honor Society.