

Academic Integrity



Academic Advising Center College of Global Liberal Arts Ritsumeikan University



"Academic integrity refers to the behavior, norms, and standards necessary to the College ensuring the soundness and credibility of its academic practice. (…) *All students are responsible* for understanding what behavior upholds and violates these standards, and for avoiding and reporting any academic misconduct within the College."

-GLA Policy on Academic Misconduct

http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/gla/file/academics/policies/academic_misconduct.pdf



Plagiarism

is a form of academic misconduct.



The verb form "plagiarize" is "to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source."

- *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, s.v. "plagiarize," accessed March 10, 2022, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarize.



What is plagiarism?

"Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work or ideas as your own, with or without their consent, by incorporating it into your work without full acknowledgement.

All published and unpublished material, whether in manuscript, printed or electronic form, is covered under this definition."

University of Oxford. "Academic good practice – a practical guide." Accessed March 11, 2022.

https://www.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxford/field/field_document/Academic%20good%20practice%20a%20practical%20guide_0.pdf



Examples of Plagiarism

- Quoting the works of others without acknowledgement
- Failure the use quotation marks or indentation
- Paraphrasing (changing words or the word order) without acknowledgement
- Getting information from somebody else (e.g., interviewee) but failing to acknowledge it.
- Cutting and pasting from different sources to compose writing without clear acknowledgment
- Translating sources written in a non-English language to English and using it without acknowledgment









Examples of Other Academic Misconduct

- Sharing answers with another student in an exam
- Having someone write your paper or take an exam instead of you
- Having AI, such as ChatGPT, write your paper and submit it as your creation.
- Submitting, or "recycling," your own essay, presentations, and other assignments that you submitted in another class previously to earn credits
- Citing a passage that you translated from another language without indicating the original source
- Bringing unauthorized items to the exam venue
- Falsification of data

Identification of authorship, honesty and transparency are keys.





Possible Consequence of Academic Misconduct

- Awarding of an F in the course
- Recommendation of suspension from the University
- Recommendation of dismissal from the University



















It is not difficult to spot plagiarism for professors!



Al-Based Plagiarism

- GLA is taking it seriously. GLA faculty and staff met to discuss ensuring academic integrity while AI techs, including Chat GPT, GPT-3, and GPT-4, rapidly develop. We also shared practices of detecting AI-text from past instances.
- GLA faculty members are now knowledgeable about Al-text detectors, such as GPTRadar, GPTZero, and CopyLeaks.
- Al generators can function as "search engines." They are not enemies, but you must assess the reliability of the Al-generated information by checking other primary sources.
- In GLA 1201 & 1202 Foundations in Research Skills, we will teach how to select research sources and assess their reliabilities. You must acquire these skills soon.



To Avoid Plagiarism



Understand what constitutes plagiarism and its consequences.



Plan ahead for the assignments.



Talk to your instructors about your academic concerns.



Use school resources like Writing Support and SSP.



Case Studies





These questions are from Wayne State University's website. Comments are also from the same website; we put additional comments to help you understand the contexts better.

https://sis.wayne.edu/students/policies/plagiarism-quiz

There are a few of our original questions, too.

We selected these questions since they are RELEVANT, particularly to past cases we dealt with. Yes, we DID DETECT them, and students were in trouble.

We are not joking. This will happen if you underestimate us.



Q1.

If I change a few words within a section of the source text and then use that in my paper, I am paraphrasing and not plagiarizing.

- 1 True
- 2 False

False.

You also need to cite the original that you are using. Further, even if you cite it, changing a few insignificant words or changing the word or sentence order can still be plagiarism. If you want to use a passage verbatim (that is, word for word) in order to express each idea in it, then use it verbatim: quote and cite it.

So, frankly, quote the source as is without changes and cite it.



Q2.

I didn't plagiarize; my paper has quotes and citations all throughout the paper, almost sentence for sentence!

- ① True
- 2 False

Maybe true.

You may not have plagiarized, but you demonstrated by your paper that your rhetorical style and method of the argument are immature and/or that you haven't spent the time and effort thinking through the materials that were your sources. Your grade will reflect this. The paper must be your argument, and you must, indeed, make an argument.

More or less, sources are just sources supporting your argument. They do not substitute your arguments.



Q3.

It is ok to simply copy and paste sections from Internet sources into my paper.

- ① True
- 2 False

False.

Those sources need to be cited, and if verbatim, quoted and cited. Further, simply copying and pasting source materials rarely makes for an argument, much less for a good argument. Internet sources can be unreliable, as well. Better work is expected from university students.

Assess the reliability and trustworthiness of the internet sources (e.g., the ".edu" domain). This is a part of your research activity, and you are 100% responsible for this.



Q4.

I had GPT-4 write my paper body and cited it. I am not plagiarizing.

- 1 True
- 2 False

False.

You are plagiarizing. Once again, all works turned in as your own must be original. It must be composed by you and contain your ideas and arguments. Furthermore, remember that Al-text does not necessarily reflect the correct information. They lie, and hence you must detect these lies by going through other primary sources.

Also remember that your course instructors are knowledgeable about Al-text detectors.



Useful Resources for Your Success



Purdue Online Writing Lab

Comprehensive guide of citation styles and great tips for writing

Plagiarism Quiz (Wayne State University)

Try to see if you can answer all of them correctly!

Perils and Pitfalls (University of Toronto)

Scenarios of academic misconduct and strategies to avoid the cases.

Plagiarism... and how to avoid it (University of Oklahoma)

A list of unacceptable excuses and some explanation of paraphrasing