What Is Plagiarism and How to Prevent It?

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Student Learning Outcome

1. Understand and be able to define plagiarism
2. Recognize common causes of plagiarism and be able to name at least 3 most common ones to avoid them
3. Be aware of Delta College’s policy and procedure on academic dishonesty
4. Be able to locate citation tools from subscription online database and from reputable web publications
5. Be aware of and be able to locate plagiarism prevention online tutorials
What Is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is using another person’s words or ideas without giving credit to the other person.

--Robert A. Harris

Other Terms You Need to Know

• Common Knowledge
  – Simple, well-known facts

• Paraphrase
  – Rephrase other’s ideas in your own words

• Citation
  – List of bibliographic information about a book or article or other types of sources
Why Do People Plagiarize?

1. Ignorance
2. Careless note-taking
3. Stress and competition
4. Lack of buy-in to the educational enterprise
5. Tutoring out of control
6. Cheating in self-defense
7. Perceived cheating by authority figures
8. Lack of perceived punishment
9. Students are natural economizers

Why Do People Plagiarize?

10. Students are faced with too many choices, so they put off low priorities
11. Many students have poor time management and planning skills
12. Some students fear that their writing ability is inadequate
13. Some students do not believe professors actually read research papers
14. A few students like the thrill of rule breaking
15. Cryptomnesia
16. Previous education at odds with university standards

Common Types of Plagiarism

- Paraphrasing without giving credits to the original source
- Quoting less than what has been copied
- Creating a paper by cutting and pasting phrases, sentences, or paragraphs from other publications
- Working on an individual assignment with a partner and turning in identical answers

Desperate Types of Plagiarism

- Copy an entire article from the Web or a subscription online database
- Download a free research paper from the Web
- Buying a paper from a commercial paper mill
- Faking a citation to get by so as to meet the deadline
- Use a paper with permission from a friend who took the same course or chose the same research topic

Policy and Procedure on Academic Dishonesty

- Board Policy 5500 A
- Administrative Procedure 5500 A.2:
Tools for Citation

- Built-in **tools** from the library’s subscription online databases
- Reputable Web resources
  - [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/#Works-Cited](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/#Works-Cited)
  - [http://library.deltacollege.edu/IC/mla.html](http://library.deltacollege.edu/IC/mla.html)
  - [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_apa.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_apa.html)
  - [http://library.deltacollege.edu/IC/apa.html](http://library.deltacollege.edu/IC/apa.html)
  - [http://library.deltacollege.edu/IC/turabian.html](http://library.deltacollege.edu/IC/turabian.html)
- Books on Writing Styles
Online Tutorials

- http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_plagiarism.html
- http://www.depts.drew.edu/composition/Avoiding_Plagiarism.htm
- http://www.reshall.berkeley.edu/academics/resources/plagiarism
- http://www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/plagiarism2.htm
Tips on Avoiding Plagiarism

- Start your research as soon as possible
- In gathering information for your research paper, be sure to include complete bibliographic information on your printouts
- Use quotation marks or block quotes to quote others’ works and give credits to the authors. Please don’t forget the page number, if any
- Know the styles of writing so that you can properly cite the sources
- List your cited sources under Works Cited or References as you write your paper so that you won’t miss any citations
Gauging Your Learning Outcome

1. What is plagiarism?

2. Name at least 3 most common causes of plagiarism so as to avoid them:

   1. 
   2. 
   3. 
Gauging Your Learning Outcome

3. Students who plagiarize may receive the following academic discipline according to Delta College’s policy and procedure:
   1. Failing grade for the assignment
   2. Failing grade for the course
   3. Removal or suspension from the college
   4. All of the above

4. Locate built-in citation tools from one of the online databases:
   1. Successfully identified the tools for citation
   2. Not successful in locating the tools for citation
5. List one of the outstanding web site (discussed in this session) that you are going to use as a 24/7 resource guide for referencing or citing sources.

6. What is the web address where you can find plagiarism prevention online tutorials, fair use guideline, and Plagiarism Hall of Shame from SJDC?

1. http://library.com