Avoiding Plagiarism

SCF Libraries Workshop
In this workshop you'll learn:

- What is plagiarism
- Why you need to avoid it
- How to avoid it
What is Plagiarism?

PLAGIARISM is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar and/or writer, professional or student, without proper credit.
Which of these are plagiarism?

1. Putting your name on a paper written by someone else
   - Yes / No
2. Downloading a paper from the internet that someone else wrote and passing off as your own
   - Yes / No
3. Putting a quote in your essay and not specifying the source
   - Yes / No
4. Paraphrasing a source in your essay and not specifying the source
   - Yes / No
5. Using an image from Google Images without stating where you got it from
   - Yes / No
6. Copying from your own previously written paper without specifying the source
   - Yes / No
Which of these are plagiarism?

1. Putting your name on a paper written by someone else       Yes / No
2. Downloading a paper from the internet that someone else wrote and passing off as your own       Yes / No
3. Putting a quote in your essay and not specifying the source       Yes / No
4. Paraphrasing a source in your essay and not specifying the source       Yes / No
5. Using an image from Google Images without stating where you got it from       Yes / No
6. Copying from your own previously written paper without specifying the source       Yes / No
Why do I have to avoid it?

#1 Avoid penalties:

Degrees of Disciplinary Sanctions for Academic Misconduct

This listing serves as an example of possible sanctions; not a definitive, comprehensive list of possible sanctions.

1. Warning, without further penalty.
2. Requiring re-writing of a paper containing plagiarized material.
3. Lowering a paper or project grade by one full grade or more.
4. Assigning a failing grade on a paper containing plagiarized material.
5. Assigning a failing grade on an examination in which cheating occurred.
6. Lowering a final grade by one full grade or more.
7. Assigning a failing grade in a course (SCF, 2019).

#2 Acknowledge the ways in which others' ideas contributed to your own.

#3 Give credit to the creators of the original work.
How do I avoid it?

Cite, cite, cite!

Cite every fact, idea, or piece of information twice: in text and in list of sources (Works Cited or References.)

Except... common knowledge (something known to most people, for ex: the fourth of July is Independence Day in the U.S.)
Examples: Direct Quotes

Incorrect: Plagiarism
It is important to remember how much libraries help you when you need information. When in doubt, go to the library!

Correct: With Citation
It is important to remember how much libraries help you when you need information. As one of the characters in a Harry Potter book said: "When in doubt, go to the library!" (Rowling 255).

Examples: Paraphrasing

Fragment from a database article:

However, a vast majority of manufactured goods cannot be recycled due to the difficulties of separating their components: glass, metal, and plastic. Some also contain dangerous chemicals that cannot be reused or easily disposed. The technology boom has generated these types of non-recyclable waste. "E-waste" is made up of televisions, cell phones, computers, and computer components that contain toxic materials. The rate of technological development dictates that this form of waste will quickly grow in volume. In 2016, the rate of growth of E-wastes was estimated to be about 17.6% annually, with a total volume expected for that year to be 93.5 million tons.

Incorrect: Plagiarism

A lot of products cannot be recycled because it is hard to separate the materials of which the products are made.

Correct: With Citation

A lot of products cannot be recycled because it is hard to separate the materials of which the products are made (York & Newton 1).

Remember: Cite twice!

In the text:

Mention it in your sentence (signal phrase):
As Maria López explained...

Parenthetical:
(López 25)

At the end:

MLA: Works Cited
Complete citations in alphabetical order.
or
APA: References
Complete citations in alphabetical order.
Practice time!

- **Option 1:** If you have an assignment where you need to use a source of information, practice doing one citation (in text and Works Cited/References) and ask the instructor to check.

- **Option 2:** Use information from the article provided by the instructor in your answer to a prompt by writing a paragraph with complete citations.
#SCFLibraries
#AskUs

Find us at:

SCF.edu/Library

or

AskALibrarian.org/SCF
References

