PLAGIARISM

Important Facts For LPC Students

Las Positas College Library

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Plagiarism: Defined

- Using but not giving credit to someone’s
  - Ideas
  - Words or Quotes
  - Opinions
  - Research facts
  - Music
  - Art work: drawings/pictures/cartoons
Plagiarism: Specifics

- **Word for Word**
  - Treat as a quote using quotation marks

- **Paraphrase**
  - A restatement or rewriting of author’s ideas in your own words. Still must be cited.

- **Summary**
  - Condensing original author’s ideas to a more succinct statement. Still must be cited

- **Common Knowledge**
  - Does not need to be cited
Plagiarism: Specifics

- Web Site Explanations with Examples
  - What is Plagiarism? Georgetown U
  - How to Recognize Plagiarism. Indiana U
Term Paper Mills

Term paper mills are a form of cheating. LPC has policies and consequences for using materials from paper mills.

- Hillary B. Price. Reprinted with special permission of King Features Syndicate
LPC Policy on Plagiarism

- Las Positas College Catalog, 2004-2006; p.40
- **Student Conduct Code**
  - Defines plagiarism
  - Defines the disciplinary action
  - Defines the rights of the student
- **Academic Honesty Statement**
  LPC Faculty Senate
  - Defines variations of plagiarism
Turnitin
Detection Service Used by LPC

- Example:
Use **Works Cited** to link to tips and examples on citation formats
LPC Library Works Cited Section

- Tips on writing term papers
- Supports APA and MLA styles
- Example of a Works Cited page
- Examples of citations include:
  - Print Materials
  - Information from Electronic Databases
  - Web Sources
  - Audiovisuals
- Templates with to use as fill-in guides
- Library links to recommended sites on plagiarism
  - Library links to web sites with citation “machine”
Strategies to Avoid Plagiarism

- Keep detailed notes & outline
- Keep several rough drafts or printouts
- Keep documentation or photocopies of all your sources / especially web sites
- Use a system for labeling your ideas separately from your sources
- Avoid cut and paste from Internet without using quotation marks
- Time management
HELP - LPC Resources

- **Instructor:** the final authority on what is acceptable
- **LPC Library:** librarians can help with research questions and sources as well as citation formats
- **LPC Writing Center / Lab:** staff available to help with all questions on writing style, citation format and other problems related to plagiarism
- **Web sites:** LPC Library Homepage has listed several recommended web sites on plagiarism.
Your Responsibility

- Understand your assignment
- Know the basics of Plagiarism
- Be aware of the LPC policy & consequences
- Know how to defend your paper or project
- Use proper citation format for your Works Cited / Bibliography
- Ask when in doubt
Follow-Up Suggestions

- Discuss Internet impact on Plagiarism
- Discuss *Common Knowledge*: how are students interpreting this term?
- **Practice Tutorial**: 10 exercises from the School of Education, Indiana University
- *Shattered Glass* / Lions Gate Films, 2004. LPC Library DVD on Stephen Glass, respected reporter for *The New Republic* who plagiarized or created fictional stories
- *Jayson Blair*: discuss former *New York Times* reporter, now book author, who also plagiarized and submitted fraudulent reports
Discussion Points:
Suggested to Verify Learning Outcomes

- Define Plagiarism. Give one specific type or instance.
- Describe an example of deliberate plagiarism.
- Does LPC have a policy dealing with students' accused of plagiarism?
- How would you avoid plagiarism?
- How would you find the Library's Works Cited examples for your citations?
- Provide a sample citation for a web site of your choice. Include a photocopy of the homepage.
- Provide a sample citation for an electronic journal/magazine article from one of the Library's databases. Include a photocopy of the first page.


“What is Plagiarism?” *Georgetown University Honor Council.* Georgetown, VA: Georgetown University, 4 Sept 2003. 6 June 2004 http://www.georgetown.edu/honor/plagiarism.html
Plagiarism Web Sites
Selected List

- **Avoiding Plagiarism / OWL - Online Writing Lab, Purdue University**
  Web site with handouts and practice exercises. Nice explanation of term, Common Knowledge. Follow link back to main page for access to more extensive materials.
  [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html)

- **Cheating 101: Paper Mills and You / P. Bates & M. Fain**
  Site is based on a seminar developed at Kimble Library, Coastal Carolina University. Extensive list of Internet paper mills. Great site for faculty while providing students with a discussion of what is wrong with buying papers: ethically and paper content quality. Last modified April 2004.
Web Sites Cont’d

- *How to Recognize Plagiarism / School of Education, Indiana University*
  Tutorial designed for students in the School of Education, to complete. Comes with overviews, examples, related resources, and practice tests.
  
  [http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/](http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/)

- *Plagiarism / Librarians Index to the Internet*
  This web directory maintains up-to-date access to the best sites. Use lii search engine and key word: plagiarism.
  
  [http://lii.org/](http://lii.org/)
Web Sites Cont’d

- *Plagiarism* / Sharon Stoerger
  Fascinating, extensive, well annotated list of links to articles on all types of plagiarism occurring in a wide variety of fields. Includes term paper sites, plagiarism detection sites and resources for both instructor and student. Stoerger first did this project for Office of the Vice Chancellor of Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Last updated July 2004
  
Web Sites Cont’d

- Plagiarism: What it is and How to Recognize and Avoid it / Writing Tutorial Services, Indiana University
  Site offers easy-to-use, brief fact sheets on plagiarism
  http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html

- What is Plagiarism? /Georgetown University Honor Council
  Concise document geared to explaining various aspects of plagiarism to students. Uses humor and the student “excuse or myth” concept to explain what constitutes plagiarism. Example: sections on A Citation is not a Traffic Ticket and In My Country Using Someone Else’s Work is a Sign of Respect
  http://www.georgetown.edu/honor/plagiarism.html