

Plagiarism

- Definitions
- How to Avoid it
- How it is Detected
- Consequences
- How to get Help

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CSUSM Library

- Source for this lecture:
- <http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/index.html>

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Plagiarism

- The process of taking another's words or ideas and providing them as if they were your own.

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Types of Plagiarism

- Exact Copy
 - Whole
 - Purchased/stolen/borrowed
 - Your own work for another class
 - Part
- Rule of thumb: 5+ words in a row, requires citation

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Types of Plagiarism

- Paraphrase
 - Summary: OK
 - Close paraphrase: not OK - considered "exact copy"
- Rule of thumb: 5+ words in a row, requires citation

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Poor example: Close Paraphrase

- "Furthermore, **concept nodes** are **linked by pathways**, **labeled**, **directional associations** between concepts. This entire **collection—nodes linked via pathways—is the network.**"
- Ashcraft (2006) says that conceptual nodes are connected by pathways, which are labeled and directional. These give associations between concepts. The collection of linked nodes and pathways is the network.

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Better Example of Paraphrase

- “Furthermore, concept nodes are linked by pathways, labeled, directional associations between concepts. This entire collection—nodes linked via pathways—is the network.”
- Ashcraft (2006, p. 134) defines the network as a collection of “concept nodes” which are linked via connections. The connections have labels (i.e. names) and are directional.

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Intention vs. Accidental?

Actions that might be seen as plagiarism

Buying, stealing, or
borrowing a paper

Using the source too
closely when
paraphrasing

Hiring someone to
write your paper

Building on someone's
ideas without citation

Copying from another source without citing
(on purpose or by accident)

Deliberate
Plagiarism

Possibly Accidental
Plagiarism



Chart from: Avoiding Plagiarism. 2002. Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL). 14 August 2002 <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_plagiar.html>. [Note: chart from old version of site.]

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Detection

- Algorithmic
 - Services (e.g. turnitin.com)
 - google words & phrases
- Informal
 - writing quality / style - post graduate level
 - poor match to assignment
 - purchased work
 - work from other class

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Consequences

- http://www.csusm.edu/policies/active/documents/academic_honesty.html
- V. Student Sanctions
- Student sanctions, imposed by the Dean of Students, for violations to the academic honesty policy can include any of the following:
 - (a) Warning
 - (b) Probation of Student
 - (c) Suspension
 - (d) Expulsion

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Academic Honesty: other

- Fraud
- Fabrication
- Cheating on tests

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The “real world”

- Rampant copying on the Internet -- “everyone’s doing it”
- Job-related consequences
 - Trademark
 - Copyright violations
 - civil fines -- actual costs
 - criminal:
 - up to \$250,000 penalty
 - jail time up to 5 years

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Getting Help

- Ask me
- CSUSM Writing Center
 - <http://www.csusm.edu/writingcenter/>

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Cryptomnesia

- When the belief about the source of an idea is wrong.
- A kind of False Memory
- Dangerous Method:
 - copy words from another source into your paper, intending to rewrite it
 - forget to rewrite it and/or suffer from cryptomnesia

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