



INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAM

of Robert W. Sterling Sr. Memorial Library

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

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Plagiarism Defined:

- An act or instance of using or closely imitating the **language and thoughts** of another author without authorization
 - the **representation of that author's work as one's own**,
 - **not crediting the original author**
- Synonyms: appropriation, infringement, piracy, counterfeiting; theft, borrowing, cribbing, passing off. (Dictionary reference.com)

Quick Tips for Quoting:

Accurately quote the original author's words.

- Enclose the quotation within quotation marks.
- Follow the quotation with an in-text citation.
- Introduce the quotation with a phrase that includes the author's name (e.g., Baxter argues that...)
- Provide a list of references with full citation information at the end of the paper.
- Check the specific techniques used by the style manual required by your professor or subject area. (library.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/student/index.html)

Other tips include:

- Talk to a librarian! They are there to help you with your research and any citation questions you may have.
- If you are unsure of whether or not to cite a source, err on the side of caution and cite it.
- Take the time to learn how to properly para-phrase, summarize, and quote.
- When taking notes always write down the complete bibliographic information and always directly quote. This way there won't be any confusion about where your sources came from and what was directly quoted and what wasn't.
- If you are having problems narrowing down your topic or if need additional guidance, make an appointment with your professor. Being confused by, or not understanding a concept is not an academic offense. Plagiarism or cheating is. Faculty members prefer that students talk to them.
- A low or failing grade is always preferable to a permanent academic offense on a transcript!
- Remember that you are responsible for your own learning.
(<http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/content.php?pid=62200&sid=460271>)