



OLD DOMINION
UNIVERSITY

WHAT STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Office of Student Conduct & Academic Integrity





BASIC PRINCIPLES OF ACADEMIC HONESTY

- According to Charles Lipson, author of *Doing Honest Work in College*, “Academic honesty boils down to three simple but powerful principles:
 - When you say you did the work yourself, you actually did it.
 - When you rely on someone else’s work, you cite it. When you use their words, you quote them openly and accurately, and you cite them, too.
 - When you present research materials, you present them fairly and truthfully. That’s true whether the research involves data, documents, or the writings of other scholars” (Lipson, 2004, p. 3).



WHY CITE?

Consider this statement

- “As scholars, we have a responsibility to our
 - Sources—to acknowledge our indebtedness to them
 - Readers—to let them know what our sources were and how they informed us
 - Ourselves—to declare our own contributions



CITATION 101

- Citation involves two basic elements :
 - **Documentation** (in-text/references)
 - **Quotation marks** (for verbatim reproductions)
- Referencing sources generally occurs in one of three ways:

Method	Content of Source Text	Length	Quotes?	Citation Required?
Quoting	Exact phrasing	Identical	Y	Y
Paraphrasing	Select passage in your own words	Shorter	N	Y
Summarizing	Main ideas in your own words	Shortest	N	Y

(The Purdue University Online Writing Lab, 2009)



CITATION STYLES

- Words and ideas of other scholars are to be cited using an appropriate citation style
 - APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.
- Most programs/majors have a specific citation style that must be followed
 - Consult your faculty for course or program-specific citation requirements.
- Some citation styles may be found online at:
 - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
 - <http://guides.lib.odu.edu/cite>



Academic Integrity Violations at ODU

1. Cheating

2. Plagiarism

3. Fabrication

4. Facilitation



WHAT IS CHEATING?

Using unauthorized assistance, materials, study aids, or other information in any academic exercise

- Examples of cheating include:
 - Using unapproved resources or assistance to complete an assignment, paper, project, quiz or exam
 - Collaborating in violation of a faculty member's instructions
 - Submitting the same, or substantially the same, paper to more than one course for academic credit without first obtaining the approval of faculty



WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Using someone else's language, ideas, or other original material without acknowledging its source in any academic exercise.

- Examples of plagiarism include:
 - Submitting a research paper obtained from a commercial research service, the Internet, or from another student as if it were original work
 - **Making simple changes to borrowed materials while leaving the organization, content, or phraseology intact.**
 - If one or more of the members of a group does none of the group's work and participates in none of the group's activities, but attempts to take credit for the work of the group.



AN EXAMPLE OF PLAGIARISM...

- An example of plagiarism, as provided by Lipson (2008, p. 61):
 - **Correct** short quote (includes citation and quotation marks):
 - “A PhD dissertation on the Second World War can assume its audience is more sophisticated than a sophomore paper on the same subject.” citation
 - **Incorrect** short quote (citation supplied, but lacks quotation marks):
 - A PhD dissertation on the Second World War can assume its audience is more sophisticated than a sophomore paper on the same subject. citation
 - **Incorrect** short quote (lacks citation and quotation marks):
 - A PhD dissertation on the Second World War can assume its audience is more sophisticated than a sophomore paper on the same subject.



BE AWARE OF “PATCHWRITING”

Patchwriting is “copying from a source text and then deleting some words, altering grammatical structures, or plugging in one-for-one synonym-substitutes” (Howard, 1993, p. 233).



EXAMPLES OF “PATCHWRITING”

- An example of patchwriting, as provided by Howard (1993, p. 234):
 - Text as it appears in the original source, Davidson’s *Genesis 1-11*
 - Such ‘story myths’ are not told for their entertainment value. They provide answers to questions people ask about life, about society and about the world in which they live (Davidson 10).
 - Incorrect paraphrase:
 - Specifically, story myths are not for entertainment purposes, rather they serve as answers to questions people ask about life, about society and about the world in which they live [Student 3].



HOW TO PARAPHRASE

- Read source text
- Put source aside
- Synthesize information and re-write it in your own words
- Compare your version to the source
- If your version is too close, put materials away and take a break
- Synthesize information again and re-write it in your own words
- If you can't change the author's words, quote the source



WHAT IS FABRICATION?

Inventing, altering or falsifying any data, citation or information in any academic exercise.

- Examples of fabrication include:
 - Citation of a primary source which the student actually obtained from a secondary source
 - Invention or alteration of experimental data without appropriate documentation (such as statistical outliers).



WHAT IS FACILITATION?

Helping another student commit, or attempt to commit, any Academic Integrity violation, or failure to report suspected Academic Integrity violations to a faculty member.

- An example of facilitation may include circulating course materials when the faculty member has not explicitly authorized their use.



CONSEQUENCES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

- Sanctions
 - Conduct Probation
 - Required educational sanctions/participation in educational activities
 - Grade sanction (usually an F on the assignment/exam or an F in the course, or both)
 - Academic Dishonesty notation on academic transcript
 - Conduct Suspension
 - Conduct Expulsion
- Past/Future academic work may be regarded as suspect (reputation)
- Department/Program/School consequences (continuance, assistantships)
- GPA / academic continuance (may not use grade forgiveness)
- Student conduct record/notation on transcript may limit future opportunities (jobs/continued education)



TIPS FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

- When reviewing your paper, ask yourself this question:
“How will my readers know what words and ideas are my own as opposed to the words or ideas of other scholars?”
- Take careful notes when researching so as to not inadvertently confuse your words/ideas with the words/ideas of others
- Follow the citation style supplied by your faculty member. If one is not provided, ask if one is preferred or recommended and follow it meticulously
- Double-check your work to ensure any citations appearing in your paper also appear in your references (and vice-versa)
 - Endnote Program: <http://guides.lib.odu.edu/endnote>



TIPS FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

- When paraphrasing other authors, compare your paraphrased passage to the original to ensure it does not resemble the original too closely (i.e. it is not patchwritten)
- Do not turn in a rough draft by mistake; what you submit is what will be evaluated (both for a grade as well as potential plagiarism)
- Educate yourself on the rules of citation. Ignorance is not an acceptable excuse for not citing properly, and you will still be held accountable in the student conduct system.
- If asking others to proofread your writing, ask for narrative feedback or generalized description of recurring errors in your writing (rather than having someone “fix” your mistakes for you).



TIPS FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

- Do not wait until the last minute to complete your work, as you are more likely to make unintentional errors or make decisions which do not align with your values or institutional standards if you procrastinate!
- The Writing Center
 - Learning Commons in Perry Library
 - Room 1307
 - <http://al.odu.edu/writingcenter/>
- Library's Information Literacy modules:
<http://guides.lib.odu.edu/modules>



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Questions?

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