

Plagiarism/Cheating

While you are encouraged to document others' opinions and data, the writing of the responses must be only your own. If I determine another has written any part of the response, I will note this as plagiarism and reserve the option of: 1) failing the paper, 2) failing you for the course, or 3) referring you for additional academic action, which may include suspension from this institution with a permanent note in your file. I have VERY strong feelings on this subject; if you value your education don't do it.

Below is a brief guide to what is considered plagiarism/cheating by this instructor.

Cheating during testing

- 'Spontaneous' cheating, such as copying of another student's paper during examination. Penalty: from F on the test to F in the course.
- 'Non-spontaneous' cheating, which includes, but is not exclusive to, conspiracy to copy from another student's paper during an examination, obtaining unauthorized (not previously distributed to any class) copies of examinations administered prior to the time of the examination, employing 'crib' notes during an examination. Penalty: From F in the course to suspension.

Plagiarism

- Unknowable misuse of material Penalty: Require student to correct or re-do paper.
- Intentional failure to cite references Penalty: Require student to re-do paper to F on paper.
- Cutting and pasting from the Internet is, without any question, one of the most blatant forms of plagiarism and is treated harshly when I identify it as this type of cheating. Penalty: F in the course to suspension.
- Submitting as one's own work done by or copied from another. This includes work done by a fellow student, or work done by you, work done by a former student or work done by a 'ghost' writer. Penalty: From F in the course to suspension.

Falsifying data

- Falsely reporting data obtained from fieldwork experiences, including falsely reporting having met responsibilities of attendance in such experiences. Penalty: From F in the course to suspension.

Duplication of work assigned

- Submitting work to meet the requirements of one course when it was done to meet the requirements of another. Penalty: from F on the project to F in the course.

Doing it the right way

- Often the main problem the student has with plagiarism is due to his/her lack of knowledge about what correctly using others' work encompasses. Generally, at the college level, you are expected to read the materials, watch the videos and form your own perspective about the materials, given these opportunities to use these sources. This perspective is not a personal opinion, but an informed, scientific discussion of the issues under consideration.
- This means that you should write "fresh"; do not simply change a few of the words to avoid plagiarism. Even though you are putting the information into your own words, you did not do the original research, so tell me by whom you were influenced (cite your sources).
- ALWAYS, feel free to check with me about your understanding of how to properly cite sources by bringing samples of your writings to me for guidance. I won't leave you hanging out there without a safety harness.

The following link is one I found that shows both the correct and incorrect ways to use information from a reference. I found it to be easy to follow and helpful as an illustration for students. <http://www.aug.edu/sociology/plagiarism.html>

Adapted from: Author unknown n.d. "Plagiarism Guidelines" Unpublished manuscript. Bremerton, WA: Chapman University - Bangor Annex.