

# The Anti-Plagiarism (Lesson4)



WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY WRITING  
CENTER

You've been hearing about plagiarism for a long time.



List as many examples of plagiarism as you can think of....



# Did you know?



- *Plagiarism* comes from the Latin language, meaning “to kidnap.”

# Plagiarism

- According to the *Merriam Webster Online Dictionary*, plagiarism means:
- “to steal and pass off the words and ideas of another as one’s own; use another’s production without crediting the source; to commit literary theft; present as new or original an idea or product derived from an existing source.”





## Intentional Plagiarism

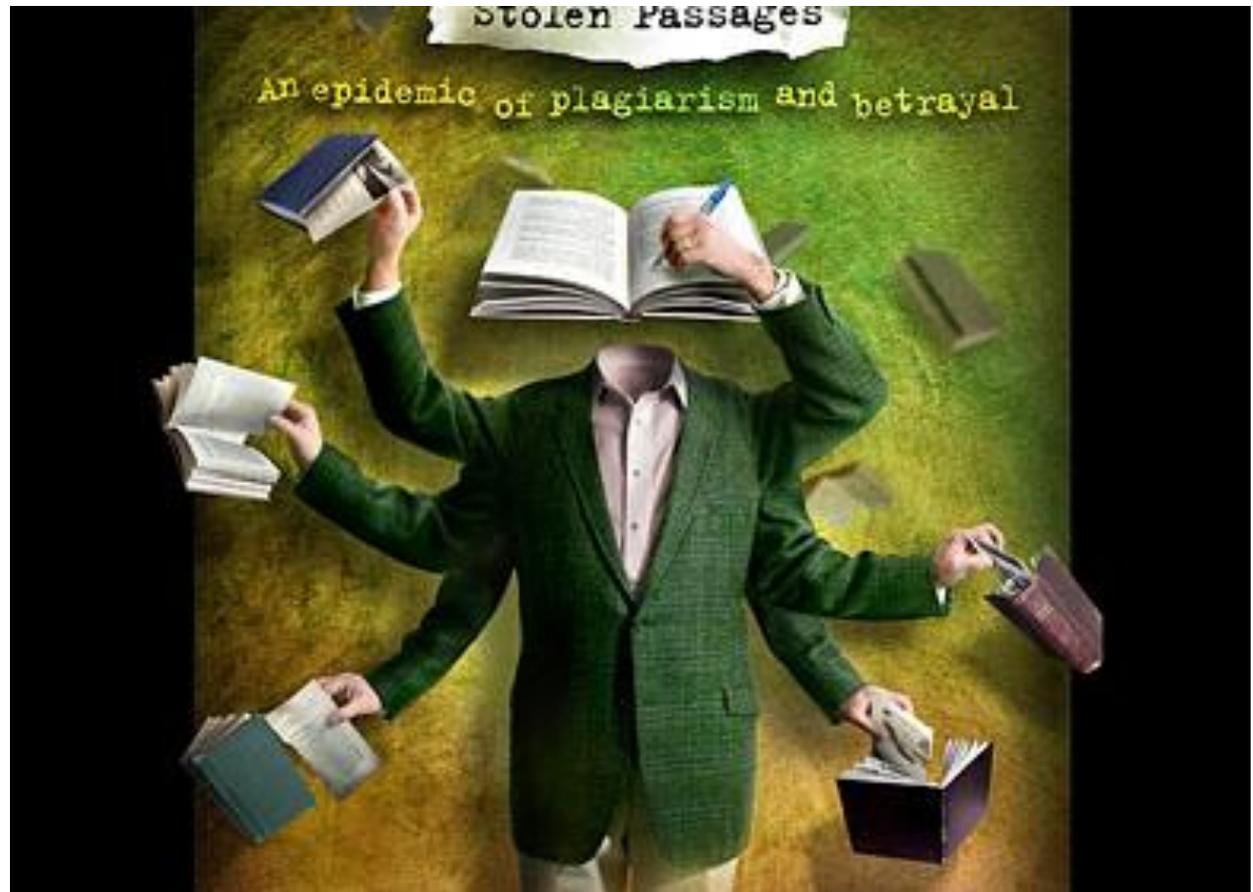
1. Submitting pre-written papers downloaded or purchased from the Internet as your own work.
2. Cutting and pasting from more than one source to create a paper without quoting or citing the sources.
3. Borrowing words or ideas from others without giving credit.



**Two types of plagiarism: Intentional and Unintentional**



1. Lazy paraphrasing and quoting.
2. Haphazard citations.
3. Lack of understanding of the research process.
4. Disengagement from the research process.



**Steps to plagiarizing unintentionally.**

# Is plagiarism really that big of a problem?



**Creativity is great, but  
plagiarism is faster.**

“In a sample of 1,800 students at nine state universities:

- 70% of the students admitted to cheating on exams
- 84% admitted to cheating on written assignments
- 52% had copied a few sentences from a website w/o citing the source.”

Don't pass go; don't collect 200 dollars; go straight to jail.



In college:

fail assignment

fail class

reported to Dean

In real world:

“...misdemeanors, punishable by fines of anywhere between \$100 and \$50,000 -- and up to one year in jail.

...a felony under certain state and federal laws....if a plagiarist copies and earns more than \$2,500 from copyrighted material, he or she may face up to \$250,000 in fines and up to ten years in jail.”

## Penalties for Plagiarizing





## Intentional plagiarists are easy to catch.

1. teacher's core knowledge
2. search engines
3. plagiarism-preventive websites
4. Internet paper mills

This is the beginning of a student paper recently submitted in an English class.

It is also plagiarized directly from [women'shistory.about.com](http://women'shistory.about.com)

- Anne Bradstreet was in most ways quite typically Puritan. Many poems reflect her struggle to accept the adversity of the Puritan colony, contrasting earthly losses with the eternal rewards of the good. Anne Bradstreet contrasts the transitory nature of earthly treasure with eternal treasures, and seems to see these trials as lessons from God.
- **How did the teacher know this was plagiarized?**

## Unintentional plagiarism is more common.

Most unintentional plagiarism occurs because students don't really understand the complexity of the research process...

OR

...they don't fully engage in the research process.

UNINTENTIONAL - BY KAULFUSS



# Understand the purpose of research.



- 1. Research is not a punishment.
- 2. Research is not busy work.
- 3. Good research starts with a provocative question.
- 4. Research is not a string of quotations linked by “ands.”
- 5. Good research involves finding the answer by first looking at what others have written.
- 6. Secondly, the researcher asserts himself into the project and creates a conversation between the different sources.
- 7. Research is the language of higher education.





By researching from the “outside,” you distance yourself from:

--the discovery of your own ideas

--the practice of expressing and refining your ideas

--receiving feedback about YOUR ideas and YOUR writing

--intellectual growth.

**SURFACE RESEARCHING** allows you to opt out of an important part of your education...and encourages unintentional plagiarism.



**By not engaging in the research process, you rob yourself of the educational experiences involved in researching, writing, and thinking.**



1. Don't purchase papers online.
2. Don't cut and paste information.
3. Don't "borrow" your roommate's paper.
4. Don't "recycle" your own work from class to class.
5. Do build enough time into your schedule to complete the research process.
6. Don't allow stress to bully you into submitting copied work.



**Stopping intentional plagiarism is easier than stopping unintentional plagiarism.**



Be inquisitive.

A recent study by Rebecca Moore Howard revealed that the majority of college students don't look beyond the third page of sources used in their research writing.

Imagine what might be on page four!



**Avoiding unintentional plagiarism requires more effort on your part.**



# Plagiarism Prevention

## Tip #1

Be  
authentic.

To thine own  
research self be  
true.

Think about the topic.  
Engage in the  
research. Interpret the  
materials you find.

Your professor knows  
the field, but is  
interested in your  
ideas and discoveries.



BE ORIGINAL



# Plagiarism Prevention Tip #2

## Take careful notes.

1. Use quotation marks to indicate direct quotes.
2. Make sure you understand the difference between paraphrase and summary.
3. Make a new card, notebook section, or computer file for EACH source, and include the author and page number on each note. This will save you time later, too!
4. Keep a working bibliography.



# The Power of Summary



## Why Summarize?

- Push yourself to a complete understanding of a complex source
- Demonstrate to your reader that you have read and fully engaged with the text
- Help your reader understand a text that is key to your project.

## Effective Summary

- “An effective summary captures the main ideas and key supporting points of a source while omitting the details.”
- At least 50 percent shorter.

# The Need to Paraphrase



## Why Paraphrase?

- Understand the logic of a complex passage.
- Convey the main idea and supporting points from a source in your own words.
- Mention examples and details from the source
- Mentally digest the material you are reading

## Effective Paraphrase

- “A paraphrase restates someone else’s ideas in fresh words and sentences.”



# Plagiarism Prevention

## Tip #3

Follow the correct citation format for your discipline:

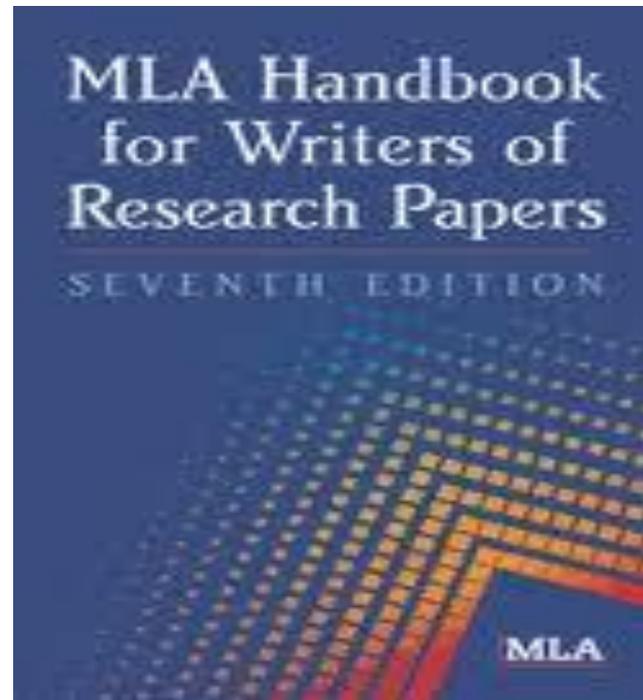
MLA—Modern Language Association, generally used in the humanities

APA—American Psychological Association, generally used in the social sciences

Chicago—generally used by history students

CBE—biology

ACS—American Chemical Society, chemistry.



# Anti-Plagiarism Checklist

- 
- You've only directly quoted the few sentences that are so unique or technically-worded that you need to use them intact.
  - All direct quotations are enclosed in quotation marks and are correctly documented.
  - When paraphrasing, you have translated the original into your own words...using your own sentence structure...and you've correctly cited the source.
  - You understand that if you've summarized a section of material, you still need to provide a citation.
  - You've made sure that you haven't mistaken material that should be documented for "common knowledge."
  - You've made sure that your paper isn't a patchwork of other people's ideas strung together with a few transitions.
  - You've proofread your paper for plagiarism errors.



## The Source Formula



- Use this formula when introducing quoted, paraphrased, or summarized material into your paper:
  - Intro + Source Material + Citation + Interpretation
- Introducing the source material allows you to create transition between ideas.
- Interpretation of the material certifies that your ideas develop and take center stage in your research writing.
- Thinking through the formula engages you in the research process.



## Plagiarism Prevention

### Tip #4

Review the  
Eberly  
Library  
Plagiarism  
Resources for  
Students

- <http://waynesburg.libguides.com/content.php?pid=129617&sid=3007390>



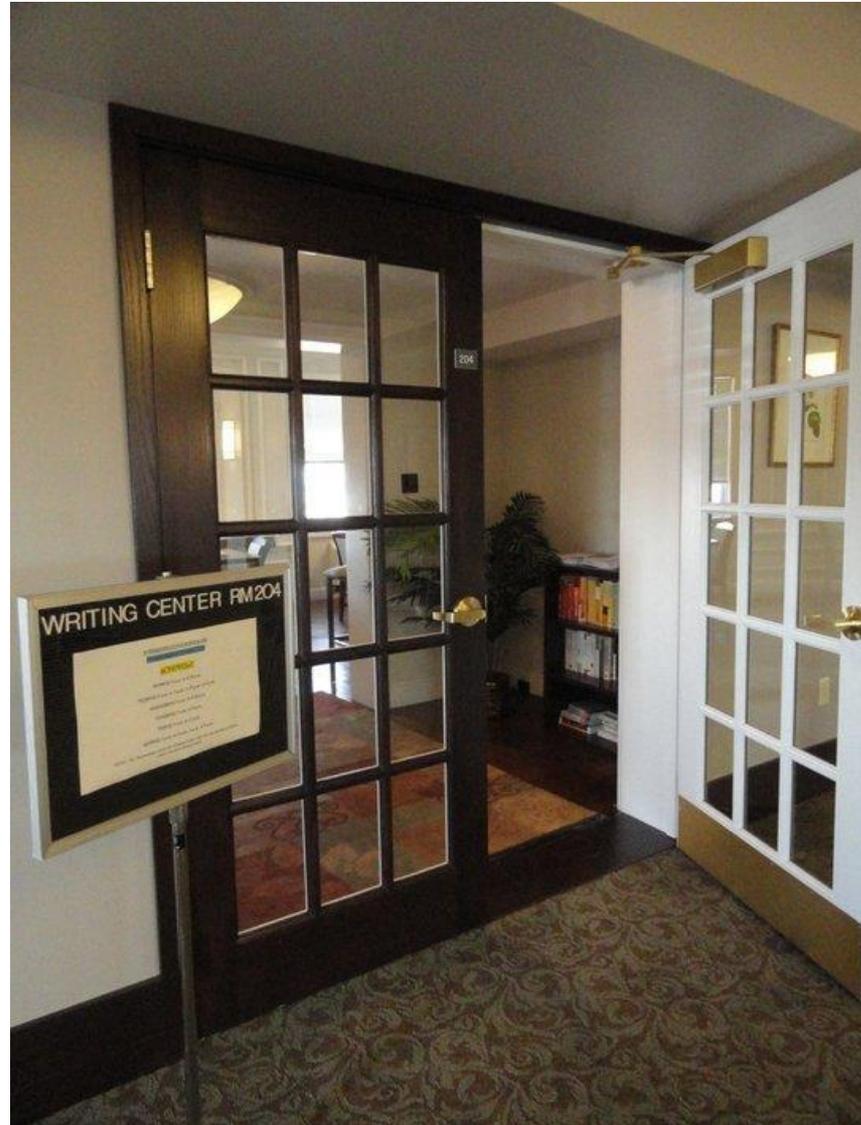
# Plagiarism Prevention Tip #5

Visit the Writing Center

204 Eberly Library

724-852-3462

We can help you to  
engage in the entirety of  
the research  
process...and be on the  
look out for  
unintentional  
plagiarism.



Make an appointment at: <http://waynesburg.mywconline.com>