

Office of Academic Integrity

Class Handout

Plagiarism – an introduction and background

- About 80% of academic integrity violations reported to OAI were plagiarism.
- Technically, plagiarism is “intentional theft of intellectual property,” and is subject to sanctions.
- At ADU, however, many reported cases of plagiarism lack the element of “intent.”
- At ADU, plagiarism can often occur due to other reasons, some of which are presented here.

Often cited reasons for plagiarism

- Lack of knowledge about the definition of plagiarism.
- Students' belief that if the information is available in public domain, there are no prohibitions regarding its use.
- Lack of knowledge about the need to credit the sources of information.
- Lack of knowledge about proper methods of citation/referencing.

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism, as defined in the 1995 *Random House Compact Unabridged Dictionary*, is the “use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work” as quoted in ([Stepchyshyn and Nelson, 2007](#)).

Why students plagiarize?

- Thinking plagiarism is not a violation of Academic Integrity.
- Lacking time to do the required coursework.
- Wanting to get good grades.
- Believing that the act is “socially acceptable.”
- Justifying on the basis of “others are doing the same.”
- Feeling that it will not be detected.
- Availability of Internet and easy access to information.

Necessary Condition to Eradicate Plagiarism

Accepting the truth about three fundamental facts of:

- your responsibility and moral obligation to tell the reader or the instructors the work submitted is someone else's;
- concealing the sources of work is “lying” and in our value system, “lying” is wrong and unacceptable; and,
- submitting work of others as one's own is “stealing” – stealing of “intellectual property.”

Specific Steps to Avoid Plagiarism

- Plan for the assignments in advance.
- Prepare an outline for the work.
- Read the literature/external resources.
- Select resources to be included in the paper.
- Prepare notes of the sections selected from sources.
- Compile the citation information related to the sources.
- Decide on the use of direct or indirect quotations.
- Follow proper APA citation.
- Include proper citation and referencing at all times.
- Include citation, when in doubt.
- Rely on the work of others, only when it is necessary.

Method of Citation (APA Style)

- American Psychological Association (APA) citation style establishes rules and conventions for documenting sources used in a research paper.
- APA style requires both in-text citation and list of references.
- For every in-text citation, there should be a full citation information in the list of References, and vice versa.
- In APA style, in-text citations are placed within sentences and paragraphs, so it is clear what and whose information is being quoted.
- The examples of APA styles and formats can be found in many online sources.

Two Main Requirements of APA Style

- In-text citation, and
- Reference page at the end of the assignment/paper.

In Appendix A at the end of the Handout, there is a detailed section that explains APA style with examples. This section is an excerpt from "Citation Management" prepared by Cornell University Library PSEC Documentation Committee in November 2002; Revised December 2008 (http://www.library.cornell.edu/newhelp/res_strategy/citing/apa.html).

Checking for Plagiarism (Turnitin Software)

- AT ADU, all papers and other written assignments are submitted to Turnitin software for "originality" checking.
- "Turnitin" is an electronically maintained archival system. It checks for "similarities" between the work submitted and the "wealth of materials" contained in its archive.
- After uploading the assignment, the software performs a complete search in its archive to find similarities, and then, generates a report.
- The report contains a "similarity index" (SI) expressed in percentage (%), and the citation information related to the sources.
- The report also contains the "texts" in its archive that matched the texts which were uploaded.

Turnitin Features and Benefits

- Encourages Proper Citation.
- Over 12 Billion Web Pages Crawled & Archived.
- Over 90 Million Student Papers.
- Over 12,000 Major Newspapers, Magazines & Scholarly Journals.
- Thousands Of Books Including Literary Classics
- Printable Reports.
- Side-By-Side Comparison.

http://www.turnitin.com/static/products.html#originality_checking

What is the acceptable “Similarity Index” Percent (%)?

- A “heavily borrowed” paper (e.g., “SI” of 95%) with proper citation is not plagiarized; however, it may be void of academic quality.
- A “lightly borrowed” paper (e.g., “SI” of 15%) without proper citation is considered plagiarized.
- Plagiarism occurs only when the citation is missing.
- In the presence of proper citation, the nature of the assignment/course dictates the acceptable level of “SI.”
Course instructors or Colleges should provide the acceptable “SI” for an assignment, or for a course.

Handout References

- Forbes, William T. (n.d.). APA Citation Style: Kaplan University. Retrieved Feb. 3rd, 2010, from <http://www.umuc.edu/library/guides/apa.shtml#academicjournals>.
- Purdue University. (n.d.). APA Formatting and Style Guide. Retrieved Feb. 3rd, 2010, from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu>.
- Cornell University (n.d.). Retrieved Feb. 3rd, 2010, from http://www.library.cornell.edu/newhelp/res_strategy/citing/apa.html .

Appendix A APA Citation Style

In-text citation

In APA style, in-text citations are placed within sentences and paragraphs so that it is clear what information is being quoted or paraphrased and whose information is being cited.

Examples:

Works by a Single Author

- The last name of the author and the year of publication are inserted in the text at the appropriate point.

from theory on bounded rationality (Simon, 1945)

- If the name of the author or the date appear as part of the narrative cite only missing information in parentheses.

Simon (1945) posited that
In 1945 Simon posited that

Works by Multiple Authors

- When a work has two authors, always cite both names every time the reference occurs in the text. In parenthetical material join the names with an ampersand (&).

as has been shown (Leiter & Maslach, 1998)

- In the narrative text, join the names with the word "and."

as Leiter and Maslach (1998) demonstrated

- When a work has three, four, or five authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs.

Kahneman, Knetsch, & Thaler (1991) found

- In all subsequent citations per paragraph, include only the surname of the first author followed by "et al." (Latin for "and others") and the year of publication.

Kahneman et al. (1991) found

Works by Associations, Corporations, Government Agencies, etc.

- The names of groups that serve as authors (corporate authors) are usually written out each time they appear in a text reference.

(National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 2007)

- When appropriate, the names of some corporate authors are spelled out in the first reference and abbreviated in all subsequent citations. The general rule for abbreviating in this manner is to supply enough information in the text citation for a reader to locate its source in the Reference List without difficulty.

(NIMH, 2007)

Works with No Author

- When a work has no author, use the first two or three words of the work's title (omitting any initial articles) as your text reference, capitalizing each word. Place the title in quotation marks if it refers to an article, chapter of a book, or Web page. Italicize the title if it refers to a book, periodical, brochure, or report.

on climate change ("Climate and Weather," 1997)
Guide to Agricultural Meteorological Practices (1981)

- Anonymous authors should be listed as such followed by a comma and the date.

on climate change (Anonymous, 2008)

Specific Parts of a Source

- To cite a specific part of a source (always necessary for quotations), include the page, chapter, etc. (with appropriate abbreviations) in the in-text citation.

(Stigter & Das, 1981, p. 96)
De Waal (1996) overstated the case when he asserted that "we seem to be reaching ... from the hands of philosophers" (p. 218).

- If page numbers are not included in electronic sources (such as Web-based journals), provide the paragraph number preceded by the abbreviation "para." or the heading and following paragraph.

(Mönnich & Spiering, 2008 para. 9)

Reference List

References cited in the text of a research paper must appear in a Reference List or bibliography. This list provides the information necessary to identify and retrieve each source.

- **Order:** Entries should be arranged in alphabetical order by authors' last names. Sources without authors are arranged alphabetically by title within the same list.
- **Authors:** Write out the last name and initials for all authors of a particular work. Use an ampersand (&) instead of the word "and" when listing multiple authors of a single work. e.g. Smith, J. D., & Jones, M.
- **Titles:** Capitalize only the first word of a title or subtitle, and any proper names that are part of a title.

- **Pagination:** Use the abbreviation p. or pp. to designate page numbers of articles from periodicals that do not use volume numbers, especially newspapers. These abbreviations are also used to designate pages in encyclopedia articles and chapters from edited books.
- **Indentation*:** The first line of the entry is flush with the left margin, and all subsequent lines are indented (5 to 7 spaces) to form a "hanging indent".
- **Underlining vs. Italics*:** It is appropriate to use italics instead of underlining for titles of books and journals.

Two additional pieces of information should be included for works accessed online.

- **Internet Address**:** A stable Internet address should be included and should direct the reader as close as possible to the actual work. If the work has a digital object identifier (DOI), use this. If there is no DOI or similar handle, use a stable URL. If the URL is not stable, as is often the case with online newspapers and some subscription-based databases, use the home page of the site you retrieved the work from.
- **Date:** If the work is a finalized version published and dated, as in the case of a journal article, the date within the main body of the citation is enough. However, if the work is not dated and/or is subject to change, as in the case of an online encyclopedia article, include the date that you retrieved the information.

* The APA has special formatting standards for the use of indentation and italics in manuscripts or papers that will be typeset or submitted for official publication. For more detailed information on these publication standards, refer to the [Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association](#), or consult with your instructors or editors to determine their style preferences.

** See the [APA Style Guide to Electronic References](#) for information on how to format URLs that take up more than one line.

Examples:

➤ **Articles in Journals, Magazines, and Newspapers**

References to periodical articles must include the following elements: author(s), date of publication, article title, journal title, volume number, issue number (if applicable), and page numbers.

Journal Article, one author, accessed online

Ku, G. (2008). Learning to de-escalate: The effects of regret in escalation of commitment. *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 105(2), 221-232. doi:10.1016/j.obhdp.2007.08.002

Journal Article, two authors, accessed online

Sanchez, D., & King-Toler, E. (2007). Addressing disparities consultation and outreach strategies for university settings. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 59(4), 286-295. doi:10.1037/1065-9293.59.4.286



Journal Article, more than two authors, accessed online

Van Vugt, M., Hogan, R., & Kaiser, R. B. (2008). Leadership, followership, and evolution: Some lessons from the past. *American Psychologist*, 63(3), 182-196. doi:10.1037/0003-066X.63.3.182

Article from an Internet-only journal

Hirtle, P. B. (2008, July-August). Copyright renewal, copyright restoration, and the difficulty of determining copyright status. *D-Lib Magazine*, 14(7/8). doi:10.1045/july2008-hirtle

Journal article from a subscription database (no DOI)

Colvin, G. (2008, July 21). Information worth billions. *Fortune*, 158(2), 73-79. Retrieved from Business Source Complete, EBSCO.

Magazine article, in print

Kluger, J. (2008, January 28). Why we love. *Time*, 171(4), 54-60.

Newspaper article, no author, in print

As prices surge, Thailand pitches OPEC-style rice cartel. (2008, May 5). *The Wall Street Journal*, p. A9.

Newspaper article, multiple authors, discontinuous pages, in print

Delaney, K. J., Karnitschnig, M., & Guth, R. A. (2008, May 5). Microsoft ends pursuit of Yahoo, reassesses its online options. *The Wall Street Journal*, pp. A1, A12.

➤ **Books**

References to an entire book must include the following elements: author(s) or editor(s), date of publication, title, place of publication, and the name of the publisher.

No Author or Editor, in print

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary (11th ed.). (2003). Springfield, MA: Merriam- Webster.

One Author, in print

Kidder, T. (1981). *The soul of a new machine*. Boston: Little, Brown & Company.

Two Authors, in print

Frank, R. H., & Bernanke, B. (2007). *Principles of macro-economics* (3rd ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill/Irwin.

Corporate Author, Author as Publisher, accessed online

Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2000). *Tasmanian year book 2000* (No. 1301.6). Canberra, Australian Capital Territory: Author. Retrieved from [http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/ausstats/subscriber.nsf/0/CA2568710006989... \\$File/13016_2000.pdf](http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/ausstats/subscriber.nsf/0/CA2568710006989... $File/13016_2000.pdf)

Edited book

Gibbs, J. T., & Huang, L. N. (Eds.). (2001). *Children of color: Psychological interventions with culturally diverse youth*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

➤ Dissertations

References for dissertations should include the following elements: author, date of publication, title, and institution (if you accessed the manuscript copy from the university collections). If there is a UMI number or a database accession number, include it at the end of the citation.

Dissertation, accessed online

Young, R. F. (2007). *Crossing boundaries in urban ecology: Pathways to sustainable cities* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses database. (UMI No. 327681)

➤ Essays or Chapters in Edited Books

References to an essay or chapter in an edited book must include the following elements: essay or chapter authors, date of publication, essay or chapter title, book editor(s), book title, essay or chapter page numbers, place of publication, and the name of the publisher.

One Author

Labajo, J. (2003). *Body and voice: The construction of gender in flamenco*. In T. Magrini (Ed.), *Music and gender: perspectives from the Mediterranean* (pp. 67-86). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Two Editors

Hammond, K. R., & Adelman, L. (1986). *Science, values, and human judgment*. In H. R. Arkes & K. R. Hammond (Eds.) *Judgement and decision making: An interdisciplinary reader* (pp. 127-143). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

➤ Encyclopedias or Dictionaries and Entries in an Encyclopedia

References for encyclopedias must include the following elements: author(s) or editor(s), date of publication, title, place of publication, and the name of the publisher. For sources accessed online, include the retrieval date as the entry may be edited over time.

Encyclopedia set or dictionary

Sadie, S., & Tyrrell, J. (Eds.). (2002). *The new Grove dictionary of music and musicians* (2nd ed., Vols. 1-29). New York: Grove.

Article from an online encyclopedia

Containerization. (2008). In *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Retrieved May 6, 2008, from <http://search.eb.com>

Encyclopedia article

Kinni, T. B. (2004). *Disney, Walt (1901-1966): Founder of the Walt Disney Company*. In *Encyclopedia of Leadership* (Vol. 1, pp. 345-349). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

➤ Research Reports and Papers

References to a report must include the following elements: author(s), date of publication, title, place of publication, and name of publisher. If the issuing organization assigned a number (e.g., report number, contract number, or monograph number) to the report, give that number in parentheses immediately after the title. If it was accessed online, include the URL.



Government report, accessed online

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2005). *Medicaid drug price comparisons: Average manufacturer price to published prices* (OIG publication No. OEI-05-05- 00240). Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <http://www.oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-05-05-00240.pdf>

Government reports, GPO publisher, accessed online

Congressional Budget Office (2008). *Effects of gasoline prices on driving behavior and vehicle markets: A CBO study* (CBO Publication No. 2883). Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office. Retrieved from <http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/88xx/doc8893/01-14-GasolinePrices.pdf>

Technical and/or research reports, accessed online

Deming, D., & Dynarski, S. (2008). *The lengthening of childhood* (NBER Working Paper 14124). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research. Retrieved July 21, 2008, from <http://www.nber.org/papers/w14124>

Document available on university program or department site

Victor, N. M. (2008). *Gazprom: Gas giant under strain*. Retrieved from Stanford University, Program on Energy and Sustainable Development Web site: http://pesd.stanford.edu/publications/gazprom_gas_giant_under_strain/

➤ Audio-Visual Media

References to audio-visual media must include the following elements: name and function of the primary contributors (e.g., producer, director), date, title, the medium in brackets, location or place of production, and name of the distributor. If the medium is indicated as part of the retrieval ID, brackets are not needed.

Videocassette/DVD

Achbar, M. (Director/Producer), Abbott, J. (Director), Bakan, J. (Writer), & Simpson, B. (Producer) (2004). *The corporation* [DVD]. Canada: Big Picture Media Corporation.

Audio Recording

Nhat Hanh, T. (Speaker). (1998). *Mindful living: a collection of teachings on love, mindfulness, and meditation* (Cassette Recording). Boulder, CO: Sounds True Audio.

Motion Picture

Gilbert, B. (Producer), & Higgins, C. (Screenwriter/Director). (1980). *Nine to five* [Motion Picture]. United States: Twentieth Century Fox.

Television Broadcast

Anderson, R., & Morgan, C. (Producers). (2008, June 20). *60 Minutes* [Television broadcast]. Washington, DC: CBS News.

Television Show from a Series

Whedon, J. (Director/Writer). (1999, December 14). Hush [Television series episode]. In Whedon, J., Berman, G., Gallin, S., Kuzui, F., & Kuzui, K. (Executive Producers) *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Burbank, CA: Warner Bros..

Music Recording

Jackson, M. (1982). Beat it. On *Thriller* [CD]. New York: Sony Music.

➤ Undated Web Site Content, Blogs, and Data

For content that does not easily fit into categories such as journal papers, books, and reports, keep in mind the goal of a citation is to give the reader a clear path to the source material. For electronic and online materials, include stable URL or database name. Include the author, title, and date published when available. For undated materials, include the date the resource was accessed.

Blog entry

Arrington, M. (2008, August 5). The viral video guy gets \$1 million in funding. Message posted to <http://www.techcrunch.com>

Professional Web site

National Renewable Energy Laboratory. (2008). *Biofuels*. Retrieved May 6, 2008, from http://www.nrel.gov/learning/re_biofuels.html

Data Set from a database

Bloomberg L.P. (2008). *Return on capital for Hewitt Packard 12/31/90 to 09/30/08*. Retrieved Dec. 3, 2008, from Bloomberg database.

Central Statistics Office of the Republic of Botswana. (2008). *Gross domestic product per capita 06/01/1994 to 06/01/2008* [statistics]. Available from CEIC Data database.

➤ Entire Web site

When citing an entire Web site (and not a specific document on that site), no Reference List entry is required if the address for the site is cited in the text of your paper.

Witchcraft In Europe and America is a site that presents the full text of many essential works in the literature of witchcraft and demonology (<http://www.witchcraft.psmmedia.com/>).

For questions, please write to oai@adu.ac.ae.