



# Plagiarism

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# What Is Plagiarism?

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- Use of another's work without giving credit
- "Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, or work of another as one's own in any academic exercise" (CSUN 2010-2012 Catalog, Appendix E)



# Discussion Question

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- Why should we be concerned about it?





# Because...

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- If you plagiarize, you are **cheating** yourself.
  - You don't learn to write out your thoughts in your own words, and you don't get specific feedback geared to your individual needs and skills.
  - Plagiarizing a paper is like sending a friend to basketball practice for you – you'll never get the benefit of the practice yourself.
- Plagiarism is **dishonest** because it misrepresents the work of another as your own.
- Plagiarism **devalues** others' original work.
  - Submitting another writer's work as yours is taking an unfair advantage over students who do their own work.



# Because...

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- It is **wrong** to take or use property (an author's work) without giving the owner the value or credit due.
- Copyright violations can result in **finances or legal damages**.
- Plagiarism **violates** the CSUN Code of Conduct and can result in suspension or expulsion.
- CSUN's reputation **affects the value** of your degree; student dishonesty hurts CSUN's standing and can make your degree worth less.

# Discussion Questions

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- Why do people plagiarize?



- What can we do to prevent it?



# Types of Plagiarism

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- **Intentional plagiarism:**

deliberate copying or use of another's work without credit.

- **Unintentional plagiarism** can result from:

- *not knowing citation standards*  
(e.g., "I thought the Internet was free!")
- *sloppy research and poor note-taking habits, or*
- *careless "copying and pasting" of electronic sources.*

- **Both types are subject to disciplinary action**

# The Spectrum of Offenses

**Possibly  
Unintentional  
Plagiarism**

**Deliberate  
Plagiarism**

Using a source  
too closely  
when  
paraphrasing

Building on  
someone's  
ideas without  
citation

Copying from  
another source  
without citing  
(on purpose or  
by accident)

Hiring  
someone to  
write your  
paper

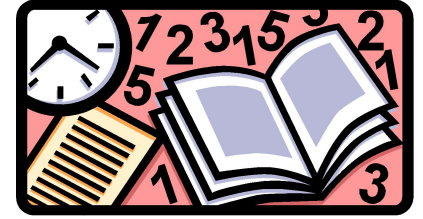
Buying,  
stealing, or  
borrowing a  
paper





# Avoiding Plagiarism

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- Manage your time
- Keep track of your sources
- Distinguish your ideas from the ideas in other sources
- Be careful when working with others
- Think of the consequences



# Proper Citation

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- Know what to cite
  - Keep track of original sources
  - Be careful of “cut and paste” online research
  - There are “no freebies”
  - Beware of “common knowledge”
- Know how to cite
  - Provide enough information so we can find the original source
  - Use an accepted standard such as APA or MLA
  - Use your own words and ideas
  - If you repeat another’s exact words, you must use quotation marks and cite the source.
  - Avoid using others’ work with minor cosmetic changes.



# Proper Citation – cont'd

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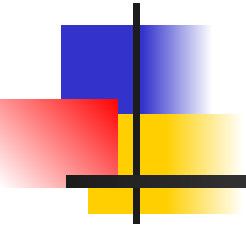
- Know when to cite
  - Direct quotations
  - Paraphrased ideas
  - Facts or information that isn't common knowledge
  - When in doubt, you must cite

# Plagiarism in Teams



- Team Assignments
  - All members of the team are responsible for accuracy and honesty of team work
  - Keep track of your own research and contributions to the team
  - Proofread for each other
  - Read the paper before it is submitted
- Study Groups
  - When working together on individual assignments, hand in your own words/answers
  - Don't give others your written answers. You can discuss how you got your solutions

# Academic Dishonesty





# Types of Academic Dishonesty

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- Cheating
  - “Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise”
- Fabrication
  - “Intentional falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise”
- Facilitating academic dishonesty
  - “Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty”
- Plagiarism