# **PLAGIARISM**

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# Learning objectives

- · Define the term "plagiarism"
- Explain the intention behind plagiarism: why it is done?
- State the types of plagiarism
- Identify what is considered plagiarism by type
- Describe the overlap between plagiarism and copyright infringement
- Recognize the seriousness of plagiarism
- Believe that plagiarism will be discovered
- Illustrate with examples the methods of avoiding plagiarism
- · Explain how to check own work for plagiarism

# Performance objectives

- 1. Demonstrate an understanding of plagiarism
- 2. Adopt methods of avoiding plagiarism
- 3. Check your own work for plagiarism before submission

### Definition

"The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own" (Oxford dictionary)

# More elaboration on the definition

- Use without quoting, attribution, or citation
- Extend to use of "words" without "paraphrasing"

### Definition

"The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own"

# Synonyms

- Copying
- Stealing
- Piracy
- Appropriation
- Infringement of copyright ©

Source: Oxford dictionary

### Unintentional

Plagiarizing others' work out of lack of knowledge of proper citation, quoting and paraphrasing

### Deliberate

Plagiarizing others' work with full knowledge that the act is an act of plagiarism

# **Types**

- Reproducing (cloning): Generating a copy of someone else work from A to Z
- Ctrl-C followed by Ctrl-V: Copy and paste a significant part (4 to 6 successive words in text) of someone else work without change
- Find then Replace: Replacing certain words with synonyms while maintaining the original content
- 4. Mixing and combining: Paraphrasing and integration in own work
- 5. Recycling: Plagiarism of own previous work

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### **Types**

- 6. Hybrid: Combine with perfection cited sources with copied work
- 7. Mash up: mixing copied materials from different sources
- 8. 404-Error: Use citation of non-existing work
- Aggregator: Proper citation but paper doesn't contain original work
- 10. Re-tweet: Proper citation but relies too closely on the original paper

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# Plagiarism is considered when

- 1. Failure to use quotations
- 2. Not making reference to the source (citation)
- 3. Paraphrasing too closely

# **Identifying plagiarism**

- 1. Knowledge of previous writing
- 2. Higher level of writing
- 3. Use of uncommon or unfamiliar terms or words
- 4. Obvious difference in style or terminology between paragraphs and sections (inconsistencies)
- 5. Use of specific software to detect plagiarism

# copyright ['kopi,raɪt]

 the exclusive right to make copies, license, and otherwise exploit a literary, musical, or artistic work, whether printed, audio, video, etc.

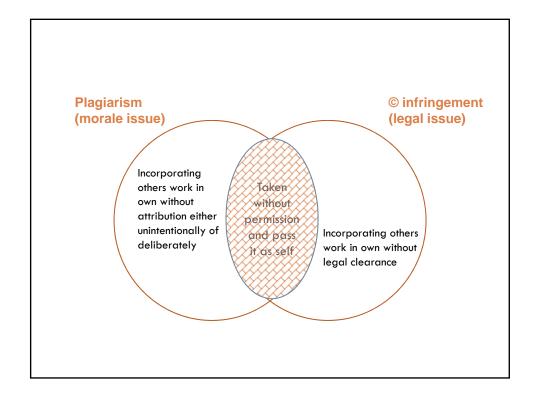
Source: Legal dictionary

"Fair use" is the use of a limited proportion of copyrighted materials for education and research purpose unless otherwise is indicated by the owner of the work. It is determined by

- 1. Purpose of use: non-profit
- 2. Nature of work used: published
- Portion of the work used: not essential or relatively small
- 4. Effect of use on author: not violating owner's profit

Copyright © infringement is "the act of violating the copyright owner's exclusive right through unauthorized or prohibited use of copyrighted material. A copyright owner's right is an exclusive one and is granted under the federal Copyright Act".

Source: Legal dictionary



Plagiarism is an offense with adverse effects on

- 1. Reputation of the institution
- 2. Reputation and career of the person who plagiarize

# General rules to avoid plagiarism

- 1. Don't copy others' work (hard copies or internet)
- Think and decide on what ideas you will put on your assignment
- Identify what is YOURS and what is not and maintain sources
- 4. Get counseling from your supervisor on writing especially when you are doubting plagiarism

# 1. Use proper citation

Make reference to the source from which the information have been obtained

No citation is required for "common knowledge" as: Sanitation of the environment will prevent a wide range of diseases.

# 2. Use quotation to convey the statement of others

Put the sentence extracted from others between quotation marks and attribute it to the original author

Original....Fifty years ago today was a tipping point in recognizing and reversing the deadly epidemic caused by smoking....

Or

Quoting: In his speech, Dr. Frieden said "Fifty years ago today was a tipping point in recognizing and reversing the deadly epidemic caused by smoking" [citation]

# 3. Paraphrase

Write the sentence in your own words and in your own style not only changing key words with synonyms.

Original....Fifty years ago today was a tipping point in recognizing and reversing the deadly epidemic caused by smoking....

Paraphrasing: The consequences of tobacco use and interventions to reverse the trend of the epidemic have been recognized 50 years ago [citation]

# **Effective paraphrase**

- Read the original passage until you understand its full meaning.
- Set the original aside, and use your own words to reflect what you have understood
- Check your interpretation with the original to make sure that your version conveyed the original information.
- Use quotation marks to a unique word or series used as they are
- 5. Provide a citation for the source of the original passage

### 4. Summarize

Extract the main idea and summarize it in few words using your own words

Original: Bulman et al (2013) wrote in the results section "Overall, our findings suggest some participants were screened for HIV without their consent, and without understanding the rationale for this procedure. Additionally, no participants remember being told they had the right to refuse testing. Finally some participants felt they were treated paternalistically when they attempted to ask questions about HIV screening. These situations all occurred in a location where opt-out HIV screening was policy."

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Summarized: Previous study (Bulman et al, 2013) cautioned that the "opt-out" approach for HIV screening of pregnant women may raise ethical concerns if women's informed consent is violated.

