

Academic Integrity

What is it? and Why it Matters

Significant portions of this presentation have been adapted with permission from the work of Athena du Pre', University of West Florida

Belter, R. W. , & du Pre', A. (2009). A strategy to reduce plagiarism in an undergraduate course. *Teaching of Psychology*, 36, 257-261.

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Academic Integrity

- Individuals who uphold academic integrity are honest and responsible when engaged in academic activities. This results in the creation of academic products that extend beyond prior contributions while giving proper credit to others whose ideas shaped or influenced the current work.

Cheating Defined

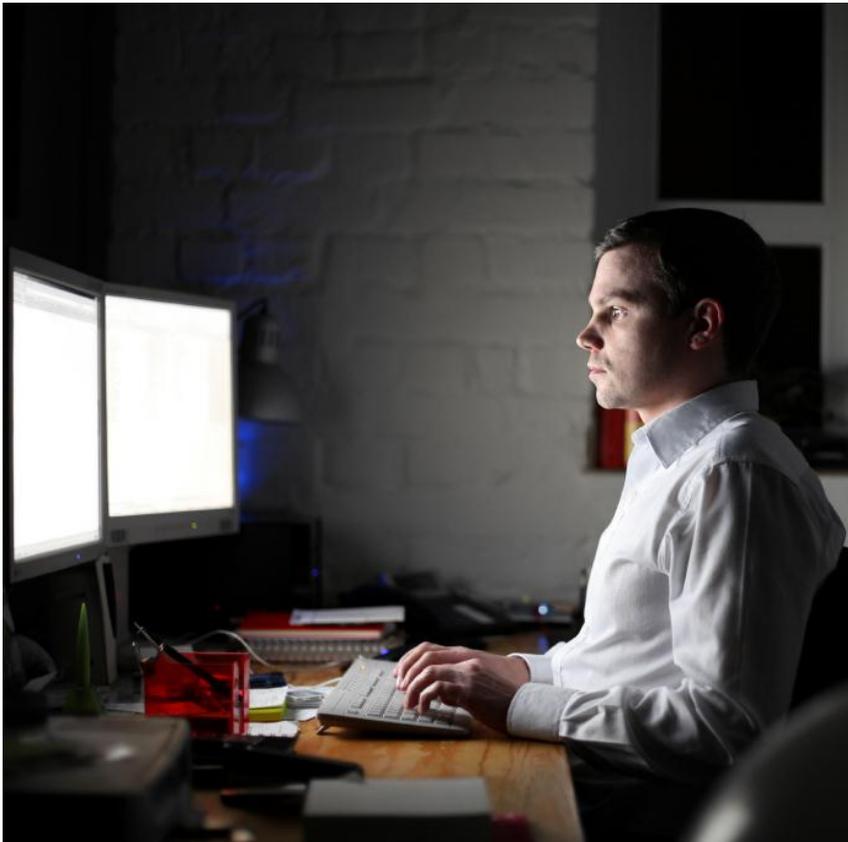
- Participating in any activity that gives you or another student an unfair advantage



Cheating includes:

- Giving or receiving test or homework answers
 - Copying from another student
 - Discussing what was on a test with someone who has not yet taken the test
 - Working collaboratively when assignment was to be completed independently
- Using unauthorized materials on a test
 - “Cheat sheets” or “crib notes” that are not allowed

Plagiarism Defined



- Presenting someone else's work as your own
- “Stealing” intellectual property

Plagiarism includes:

Cut and Paste

- Putting your name on the work (entire paper or sections) that someone else created

Not Really Paraphrasing

- Changing a few words in the sentence is not enough

Citation Problems

- Not using quotation marks when using another person's words
- Using quotation marks but not citing the source
- Not citing what you paraphrased

Why it Matters...

- Honesty leads to **increased learning**
- Being ethical is important in **careers and life**
- Values build **character**



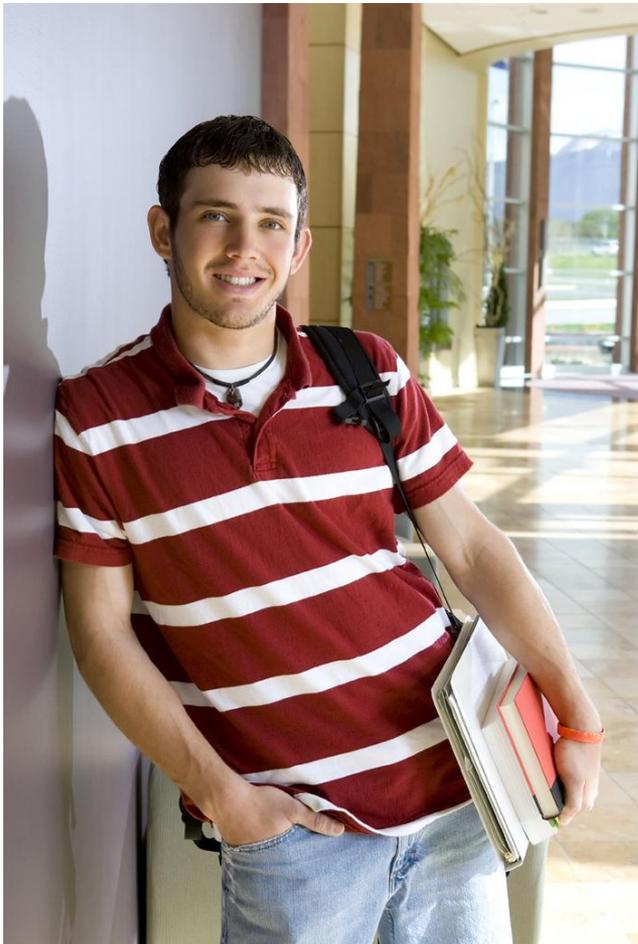
Academic Dishonesty: Consequences



Penalties

“Any violation of the principles of academic integrity is a serious offense. Penalties imposed by the instructor can range from an alternate assignment to failure in the course. The instructor may file code of student conduct charges which may result in suspension from the College.”
(Middlesex County College Catalog 2012-2013, 35)

Tips to Avoid Cheating



- **Learn** about academic integrity
- Be familiar with **college policies** (see p. 35 of 2012-2013 MCC catalog)
- Be familiar with professor expectations- **review syllabus**
- **Focus on learning** and prepare well for learning tasks
- Be ethical and honest and encourage others to **uphold academic integrity**

Avoiding Cheating: Knowing What is Expected



PSY 123-13, Introductory Psychology



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Please come and visit me!

Drop In: Mondays 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.; Thursdays 1:00-2:00 p.m.

By Appointment: Mondays 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Thursdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.

****Class Meets in CB 123 on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.****



Text: Experience Psychology by King (1st edition)

Note: You will want the On-line Student Support Materials (Connect/LearnSmart); they come with the book if you purchase it at the bookstore. Details about this will be provided on the first day of class.

If you need accommodations due to a disability, contact Disability Services in Edison Hall Room 100, 732.906.2546.

To foster a productive learning environment, the College requires that all students adhere to the Code of Student Conduct which is published in the college catalog and website.



I am very excited to share my passion for psychology with you as we explore the field of psychology. Believing in your ability to perform well, the course requirements will be academically and personally challenging yet accomplishable. It is my hope that you will experience success now and in the future. You can expect this semester to be filled with lively discussions, activities, and challenging assignments. It is important for you to know that support is available to you. I would be happy to meet with you in person or answer your questions electronically via e-mail. The library is another great resource as is peer tutoring. Forming in-person and on-line study groups are also wonderful ways to expand your academic support system.

- It's your responsibility to know the policies and expectations.
- Focus on the **purpose of the learning task**
- The **syllabus** should provide you with information about what is and is not acceptable (ex. Can work with others or must work independently)
- **Reach out** to professor with questions or for clarification

Avoiding Cheating: Focus on Learning

- Focus on why you need the information and skills
 - Don't rob yourself from learning and being prepared for what's ahead
- Plan well to reduce pressure
 - Practice good time management
 - Study a little every day
 - Break large assignments into manageable parts
 - Seek help from professor, tutors, and librarians when needed



Encouraging Others to Uphold Academic Integrity



Values and Character Matter

Tips to Avoid Plagiarism



- Focus on the **purpose** of the task
- **Plan ahead-** give yourself plenty of time for the task
- **Practice** paraphrasing
- Keep **track** of your resources
- Learn **how to cite** sources
- **Review** your work before submitting it

Avoiding Plagiarism: Focusing on the Purpose of the Assignment

What is the learning goal of this assignment?

- Remember, most assignments will require YOU to share YOUR contributions while citing others who have influenced or shaped YOUR work



Avoiding Plagiarism: Paraphrasing

- Avoid using too many words or ideas of another person in your work
 - Some students over rely on quotes when they struggle with paraphrasing- don't fall into this trap
 - Avoid taking notes with the source in front of you- instead- read it, close it and then write down your ideas

Avoiding Plagiarism: Learning to Paraphrase

Example Sentence: It will be essential to consider the impact of the patient's depression on the other members of the family.

Not acceptable

- It will be important to think about the effect of a client's depression on the other members of the family.

Acceptable

- Proper treatment requires consideration of the negative impact that depression has, beyond the depressed patient, on the other members of the family. (include citation here)

Avoiding Plagiarism: Keeping Track of Citations



- Write down entire citation as you work on the assignment
 - Makes creating the Reference list at the end easy!
- Develop a system to keep your notes/content connected to the source
 - Notecards- write source on back
 - Computer- make notation of which source (include name, author, page number)

Why do we need to cite sources?



- To document where the information or idea originated
- To give credit to author
- To provide reader with information so that he or she can go to original source for more information and details on the subject matter

What do we need to cite?

Need to Cite:

- Someone else's words or work
 - **must use quotation marks when using direct words**
- Paraphrased thoughts or ideas (basically any idea that is not purely your own)

Do NOT Need to Cite:

- Ideas that are purely your own
- Common knowledge
 - **When in doubt, cite it!**

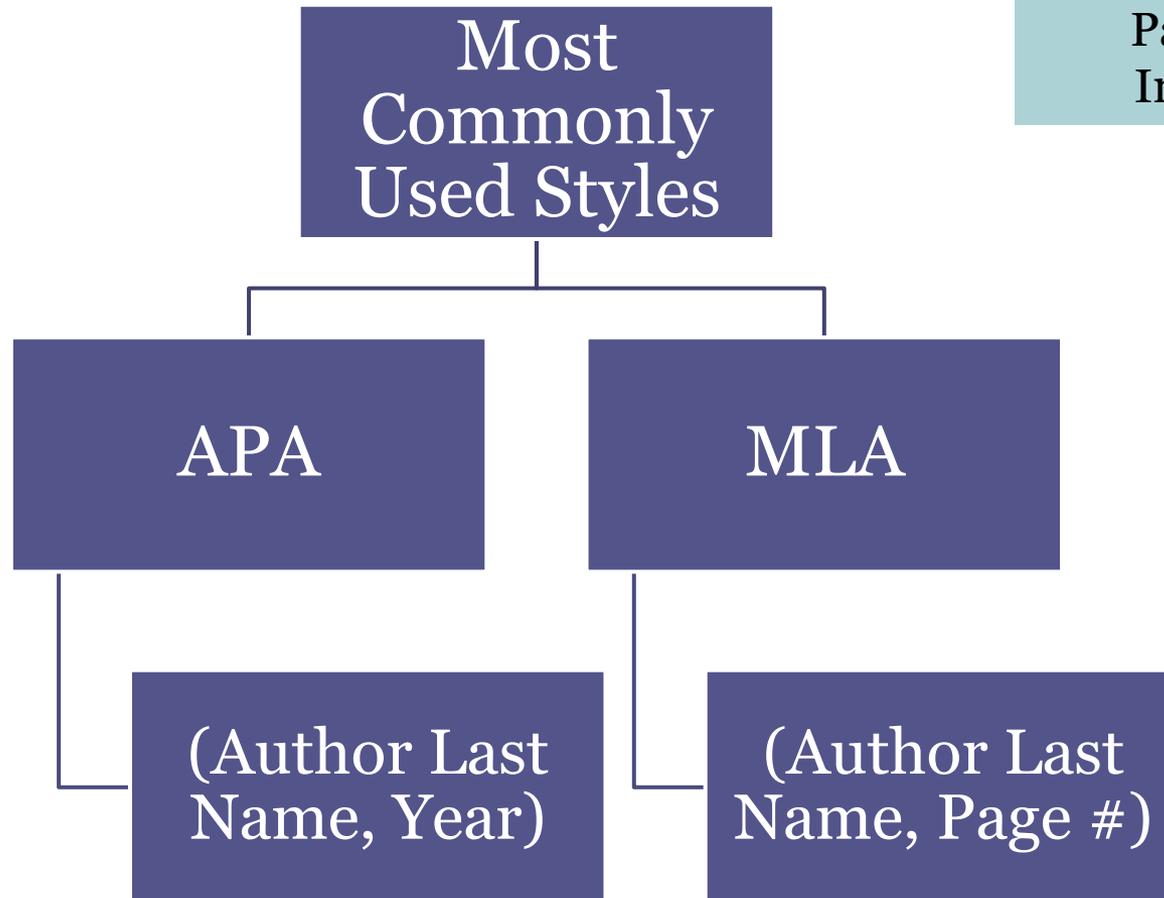
When do we need to cite sources?

- Whenever you using the ideas, thoughts, or works of another to create a product
- Includes
 - Papers
 - In-text and on Reference page
 - Presentations
 - Cite sources on slides
 - Other works
 - Includes images, media, etc.



Citation Styles

In-text Citations for
Paraphrased
Information



Helpful Citation Websites

Modern Language Association (MLA)

- [MLA Website and Manual Information](#)
- [Purdue University](#)

American Psychological Association (APA)

- [APA Website and Manual Information](#)
- [Purdue University](#)

[KnightCite Citation: General Citation Assistance](#)

Avoiding Plagiarism: Reviewing Your Work



- Review entire paper and add citations if it is NOT:
 - Your own words
 - Common knowledge
- Be sure all of your in-text citations are included on your Reference page

References

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