

Academic Dishonesty & Plagiarism

What is it?

10 types video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EF5eFeJMplA>

4 types video:

<https://otis.libguides.com/plagiarism>

What are the best strategies for avoiding it?

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1. Don't procrastinate. This is when we make bad decisions.
2. Take notes. Don't write with the original source right next to you.
3. Keep careful notes. Record sources so you remember what information came from each source.
4. Take good notes. Take the time NOW to understand the text. Write down only facts (stats, numbers, names, dates) in key words and phrases to avoid recreating the wording of the original.
5. Record quotations in quotation marks in your notes.
6. Use the Turnitin feature that allows you to check your own work. You can adjust the filter yourself to exclude quotations and references.

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What if I forget one citation in my 10-page paper?

If you overlook a citation because you are an imperfect human being, this would be a mistake, not academic dishonesty. If your paper is full of citations and you are using other sources responsibly, I will assume this is an oversight.

What if you find a section I thought was adequately paraphrased, but you disagree?

We are dealing with some tougher texts to read and comprehend. If there is one section of your paper that is cited but dubiously paraphrased, I will simply note that as I grade, and perhaps subtract points if it is appropriate. Patterns of inadequate paraphrasing, on the other hand, would be a cause for concern.

What if I just know something, but I don't have a source?

You and I have little credibility in the topics we will be writing about. All claims should be supported with research, and all research should be cited. If your paper is full of common knowledge that doesn't need to be cited, then you are not doing the work the paper requires. If you find sources for the facts you already know, you will find additional details and information that will help you develop a compelling, well-supported argument. So research – it's a win-win.