Using Information Ethically: Plagiarism and APA Citation Basics

Autumn M. Johnson, MLIS
Liaison to Social and Behavioral Sciences
johnsona@savannahstate.edu | 912-358-4331
What is plagiarism?

"the appropriation or imitation of another's ideas and manner of expressing them, as in art, literature, etc., to be passed off as one's own."


"To represent oneself as the author of some work that is in fact the work of someone else is to plagiarize. Plagiarism may include the “passing off” of the form of the work—for example, the exact words of a piece of writing—or the intellectual content, or both."

What is plagiarism?

- Downloading an entire paper online
- Copying and pasting
- Making up sources
- Peer copying
- Substituting words in a sentence
- Reusing a paper from a previous class
- Including sources in a bibliography but failing to cite them in the text
- Poor paraphrasing skills
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Does plagiarism matter?
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Students are expected to demonstrate a high standard of academic honesty in all phases of academic work and college life. Academic dishonesty represents an attack on intellectual integrity without which there can be no true education. In taking tests and examinations, completing homework, laboratory work, and writing papers, students are expected to perform honestly. Consequently, Savannah State has established the following policies for detected acts of academic dishonesty.

1. All cases of detected academic dishonesty will be reported by the faculty to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
2. Plagiarism or cheating in any academic work will result in a recorded grade of "F" for that work.
3. A second offense during the course of a student's academic career at Savannah State will result in an "F" for the course in which the academic dishonesty has occurred. In addition, students who have committed a second offense of academic dishonesty during their academic career at Savannah State will be placed on academic probation for a minimum of one semester.
4. A third incidence of academic dishonesty during a student's career at Savannah State will result in immediate dismissal from the College.

-Savannah State University Policy on Academic Honesty
Does plagiarism matter?
Why do students plagiarize?
Confusion about citation style and formatting

Opportunity

Deadlines for Multiple classes

Procrastination

Pressure over grades

Pressure from parents, teachers, coaches, and peers

Student

Avoid plagiarism by citing your sources
Why Cite?

• Citing your sources ensures the prevention of plagiarism.

• Citations ensure that proper credit is given to the original creator.

• Allow scholars to build upon knowledge.
When to Cite: Quoting

The exact, word-for-word use of another writer’s work into your own writing.

- They **must** match the source word-for-word.
- Must be enclosed in quotation marks.
- Must have an in-text citation attributed to the original author immediately following it.
- Block quotations (40+ Words) should be offset from the main text and single-spaced. Do not include quotation marks.
When to Cite: Paraphrasing

Putting an author’s words or idea from a source into your own words.

- Involves varying the sentence structure, not just changing the words.
- Slightly condensed
- Must have an in-text citation attributed to the original author immediately following it.
When to Cite: Summarizing

Putting the main idea(s) into your own words, including only the main point(s) in a condensed form.

- Considerably shorter in length
- Involves varying the sentence structure, not just changing the words.
- Must have an in-text citation attributed to the original author immediately following it.
When to Cite: Common Knowledge

Common Knowledge does **not** need to be cited. This includes information that is considered well-established fact verifiable in multiple sources. It includes commonly used phrases and proverbs, historical dates, places, and events.

Charles Wright Mills was born in 1916.

Barack Obama is the 44\textsuperscript{th} president of the United States.

“The early bird catches the worm.”
APA Citation

The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association is the style manual of choice for writers, editors, students, and educators in the social and behavioral sciences.

It is the preferred style for students of Criminal Justice.
APA Citation

REMEMBER

All references cited in the text must be listed in the reference section, and vice versa.

In-Text AND Reference List

Image credit: http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-JluYWRGzKqw/U1VET8PQnyI/AAAAAAAABmA/qCI7MwOFiQ/s1600/peascarrots.jpg
APA: In-Text Citations

An in-text or parenthetical citation refers to the practice of giving credit to an author by citing their words and ideas in your paper. Remember to reference your internal citation at the end of your paper in the works cited list.
APA: In-Text Citations

Citations in the text include the last name of the author(s) and year of publication.

**With author in sentence**
According to Jones (1998), APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners.

**Without author in sentence**
APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners (Jones, 1998).

See OWL Purdue
APA: In-Text Citations

Include **page numbers** when quoting directly from a work or referring to a specific passage. **Pagination** includes the author, year of publication, and the page number for the reference (preceded by "p.").

**With author in sentence, using direct quote**
According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

**Without author in sentence, using direct quote**
She stated, "Students often had difficulty using APA style" (Jones, 1998, p. 199), but she did not offer an explanation as to why.

See OWL Purdue
ASA: Reference Lists

- All references cited in the text must be listed in the reference section, and vice versa.

- List references in alphabetical order by first authors’ last names.

- Authors' names are inverted (last name first); give the last name and initials for all authors of a particular work for up to and including seven authors.

- References should be double spaced.

See OWL Purdue
ASA: Reference Lists

Books

Author, A. A. (Year of publication). *Title of work: Capital letter also for subtitle*. Location: Publisher.


See OWL Purdue
APA: Reference Lists

Journal Articles (electronic)


See OWL Purdue
APA: Reference Lists

**Website (Non-periodical)**


[See OWL Purdue](#)
APA: Reference Lists

Legal Resources
For legal decisions, statutes, codes and other strictly legal formats, APA follows the style of The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation.

For each citation you need:
1. name/title of the act or case, or code entry
2. Source reporting the decision: Volume Source Page (Information identifying specific case/law/code entry)
3. Publication date for the source
4. If from online (i.e. LexisNexis) that information as well.
APA: Reference Lists

Legislation
*Statutes* – laws arranged chronologically by year enacted.

*Codes* – laws arranged by subject. It is common to cite a law from a code.

Format:
* • Name of Act
 * • Source
 * • topic section (§) XXXX (year)

Examples

ASA: Reference Lists

- Film and Video
- Government Documents/Public Documents
- Legislation
- Dissertation or Thesis
- Archival Sources
REMEMBER
All references cited in the text must be listed in the reference section, and vice versa.

In-Text AND Reference List