

Notes on Plagiarism

What is plagiarism?

In addition to turning someone's work in as your own, plagiarism is also taking someone else's ideas/words/concepts/theories and passing them off as your own. The Bible describes integrity as truth. Ephesians 4:28 tells us *let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands...*

Plagiarism can happen in different ways:

- ✚ Purposefully copying words/ideas without giving credit, or withholding full citation information
- ✚ Failing to properly cite facts/ideas in your paper
- ✚ Improperly paraphrasing (such as changing a few words, but retaining sentence structure)

How to prevent plagiarism:

- ✚ Take careful, organized notes during your research – keep track of what source(s) information/notes came from, and remember to note the pages.
- ✚ Consult with your professor if you have any questions as to whether something needs cited, or how to cite it.
- ✚ It's helpful to know the different types of plagiarism – direct, accidental, even self-plagiarism. Check out the different types here, from Bowdoin College: <https://www.bowdoin.edu/dean-of-students/conduct-review-board/academic-honesty-and-plagiarism/common-types-of-plagiarism.html>
- ✚ Know how to properly paraphrase (courtesy of University of Wisconsin-Madison's Writing Center): <https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/quoting/sources/>

Remember, if you need assistance, [Ask a Librarian!](#)

