

# Plagiarism

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There are a lot of ethical and legal issues involved in academic writing and publishing (Bradley-Springer, Lucy, 2011). As graduate students, one of the most important things we should consider about in academic writing is plagiarism. Everyone has been told a lot about academic honesty during the orientation and at the beginning of each semester. But what is plagiarism? In Bakir Mehić MD (2013), there is a definition about plagiarism that plagiarism is unauthorized appropriation of other people's ideas, processes or text without giving correct credit and with intention to present it as own property. In David Eastment (2005) there is an easy way to understand plagiarism. When searching something in specific field to build our own article. After finding something useful, we copy and paste them into Microsoft Word without giving an appropriate citation for them in the reference. That is the plagiarism. It can also be considered as intellectual theft or academic fraud. There is also another form of plagiarism called self-plagiarism including duplicate publication, salami-slicing, text recycling and so on. It may not be theft or fraud but it is dishonest.

I think the most reason we care about plagiarism is about dishonesty. Plagiarism is an act of lying. Without any credit you claim the works for yourself and get academic or economic benefits which are not yours deserved. Sometimes that will be a misdeed which keeps company with you for the whole life. Next for academic field, most of people's researches are built upon others' work before. They gave credit and honor to them who offered help in the project so that they have the motivation to share further findings and researches. This cycle of academic conversation pushes the science forward. If no one cares about plagiarism the cycle will be broken. Some people steal others' achievements and declare as their own or even get benefit from them. That will urge those who concentrate on the academic to stop sharing anything with others in the field because of the unfairness. Therefore the academic exchange will stop, which is a great loss for the whole field. So that we should pay close attention to plagiarism.

I think plagiarism is not that hard to avoid under the developed technical tools and abundant resources in modern society. The most simple way to avoid plagiarism is to give credit to the author, as known as citation. That is to say when using ideas, sentences or other parts of others' previous research you should tell the readers about the original works. Even if you use some materials from your previous research you should also cite them. Another effective way is paraphrasing. You can read the material, digest it and represent it in your own words. Or you can quote the word or sentences of certain authors. When citing you should list all the sources and information such as author, title, journal title, date and pages about them in reference part at the end of your article (Izet Masic, 2014). And also there are lots of online tools or software which help you check whether your article has plagiarism or not.

## Reference

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