

Plagiarism Learning Center, Finch Library

What is plagiarism?

*the unauthorized or misleading use of the language and thoughts of another author

Why is plagiarism unacceptable?

On my honor as a Peace College student, I will not lie, cheat, or steal; nor will I condone the actions of those who do.

**No student shall receive or attempt to receive assistance not authorized in the preparation of any laboratory reports, examinations, essays, themes, term papers or similar assignments to be submitted in fulfillment of a college requirement. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas of others are incorporated into a paper, they must be appropriately acknowledged.*

Consult pages 47-49 and 58-59 of your Student Handbook for more information on the policies and disciplinary measures regarding the Honor Code.

How do I avoid plagiarism?

*Anytime you use the exact word, phrase, or sentence from a source, place it in quotation marks and cite the source.

*Anytime you use the ideas of another writer (directly quoted or not), cite the source, even if you used your own words for the ideas.

*If the information is common knowledge (as known by a number of different sources), you do not need to cite the source.

The best papers use the writer's own ideas and quote only when necessary. Make sure you use your own writing style, and paraphrase to show your understanding of the material.

How to paraphrase successfully-

*Use your own writing style and language; do not simply change a few words to make the sentence slightly different from the original.

*Cite the source according to your documentation format (APA, MLA, CMS...).

*Read the source carefully to make sure that you understand its meaning.

*Annotate while reading so that your mind is actively thinking about the material, not just memorizing it.

*When you begin to write, do not refer back to the original source. This will keep you from directly quoting from it.

*Always check your paraphrase against the original to make sure that they are different.

***When in doubt, cite your source!**

