PLAGIARISM PREVENTION 101
Using Sources in Your Researched Writing
OVERVIEW

3 topics
• Definitions and Expectations
• Understanding Sources
• Conventions

2 goals
• Avoid unintentional plagiarism
• Think critically about source use

1 follow-up
• Full lesson online
DEFINITIONS & EXPECTATIONS

Plagiarism Prevention 101: Using Sources in Your Researched Writing
**WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?**

**Plagiarism**
“The use of **words**, information, insights, or ideas of another without crediting that person through proper citation.”

- NPS Honor Code

**Source misuse**
“Carelessly or inadequately citing **ideas** and **words** borrowed from another source.”

- Council of Writing Program Administrators

**NPS expectations**

*Don't:* plagiarize

*Don't:* misuse sources

*Do:* be strategic

*Do:* learn conventions
WHAT IS ATTRIBUTION?

Proper credit to material borrowed from another source

Attribute source material properly, avoid plagiarism.
WHAT DO I ATTRIBUTE?

Cite:
ideas, data, images, and words that are not your own

Don't cite:
your experience and findings, common knowledge for your readers

Distinguish between source evidence and your own input or analysis as a writer
UNDERSTANDING SOURCES

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STRATEGIC READING

Take notes on:
• Argument/main point: Do you agree?
• Evidence: Is something missing?
• Assumptions: Is the reasoning strong?
• Your responses: knowledge, experience, analysis

In your notes:
• Distinguish between the source and your thoughts
• Note borrowed terms, phrases, sentences
• Record reference information
CONVENTIONS

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ATTIBUTION CONVENTIONS

Using Citations & Signal Phrases

Quoting

Summarizing & Paraphrasing

Following a Citation Style
CITATIONS AND SIGNAL PHRASES
Signal that content has been borrowed from a source

Citations
- Differ by style
- Match source in reference list

In [13] and [14]...
Lim’s 1999 study revealed...
(Li & Sanchez, 2019)
Recent reports disagree.89

Signal phrases
- Signal source without citation
- Show continued use of source

Their research illustrates...
[Author] also examined...
As the article suggests...
According to the website...

Use variety
Citations +
Signal phrases +
Sentence flow
DIRECT QUOTATIONS

Borrowed language

• “Quotes” for ~5+ words
• Can be said differently
• Citation = credit for idea
• Quotes = credit for words

Don't quote: proper nouns, key terms, common phrasing, highly technical (equations)

Noteworthy

• Use sparingly
• Precise or historical wording (definitions, legal)
• Know your field’s norms

Quote: passage is clear and brief; passage is powerful; passage is important
SUMMARIZING & PARAPHRASING

Summarizing
• Source / idea as a whole
• Shows you understand the bigger picture
• Requires a citation

Summarize to: generalize detailed or lengthy information.

Paraphrasing
• Source concept, your words
• Context of your argument
  • Proper nouns / key terms
• Requires a citation

Paraphrase when: the source is complex or you can explain your own way.

Patchwriting
• Small changes
• Same sentence structure

Never patchwrite in a final paper.
CITATION STYLE

Helps your readers identify your source use, helps you establish membership in your academic community
USE THE CITATION GUIDE

https://libguides.nps.edu/citation

Essential Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title Case</th>
<th>Sentence case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Love among the Ruins: A Memoir of Life and Love in Hamburg, 1945</td>
<td>Love among the ruins: A memoir of life and love in Hamburg, 1945</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Capitalize everything except:
- conjunctions (and, but, or, etc.)
- prepositions (to, of, on, among, between, etc.)
- articles (a, an, the)
- the first and last words in titles and subtitles
- proper nouns

Citations and refs by source type

Use a citation manager to save time and organize; check against the citation guide for errors
Full lesson on GWC site

nps.edu/web/gwc/citations-avoiding-plagiarism

Games
Explanations
Additional resources