

Plagiarism

The University's Student Code of Conduct

(<http://www.csuohio.edu/studentlife/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf>) defines plagiarism as “stealing and/or using the ideas or writings of another in a paper or report and claiming them as your own. This includes but is not limited to the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the use of another person without full and clear acknowledgment.”

Each academic should have its own policy statement on plagiarism that is at once consistent with university policy and specific to the writing program of the department/school. That policy should be reviewed annually at one of the early fall semester faculty meetings. The chair/director of the unit bears responsibility for ensuring all full and part-time faculty adhere to these guidelines. One important way to bring about uniform adherence is to have a statement on plagiarism and its consequences that all instructors in the unit place on their syllabi.

Administrative and faculty response in each department/school to student plagiarism must be guided by the Student Code of Conduct's Policy on Academic Misconduct (Section 3.1.2). The procedures, due process arrangements, grade and disclosure penalties vary somewhat for the defined categories of “major” and “minor” infractions.

In recent years a common form of plagiarism has been a student's completion of a written assignment by downloading Google-located material from the Internet and lightly editing the content, without any attribution of the source or author.