

# PLAGIARISM? WHAT IS IT?

Plagiarism is the unauthorized use of someone else's thoughts or wording either by incorrect documentation, failing to cite your sources altogether or simply by relying way too heavily on external resources. Plagiarizing not only does not give proper credit to the person who really came up with the language and/or idea you are borrowing, but also fails to inform the reader that the information originated from an outside source.

Plagiarizing undermines your academic integrity. It betrays your own responsibilities as a student writer, your audience, and the very research community you were entering by deciding to write a paper in the first place. *It makes you dishonest.*

*It's like lip-synching to someone else's voice and accepting the applause and rewards for yourself.*