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# **A Classroom Based Intervention to Reduce Plagiarism among College Students**

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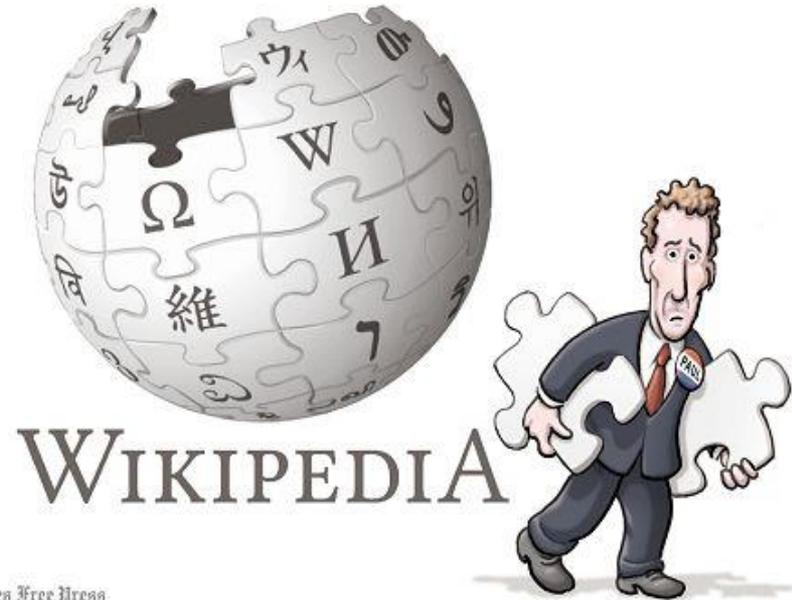
# Session Overview

1. Plagiarism Training: Powerpoint, definition hand-out, and worksheet
2. Plagiarism Quiz
3. Plagiarism Contract
4. Catching Plagiarism
5. Powerpoint on APA Format

# Introduction

Writing is an integral part of training in Psychology

- ❖ Increase in plagiarism in higher education (Breen & Maassen, 2005).
- ❖ Accessibility of technology and opportunities for plagiarism (Born, 2003)



# Introduction

Understanding the causes behind student plagiarism is integral to adequately address the issue of reducing student plagiarism.

Some students are unaware of proper ways of citing, paraphrasing, and referencing (Park, 2003).

Important to train future professionals to write in manner that guarantees honesty in scientific knowledge.

# Forms of Plagiarism

- Cloning the work of others
- Pulling significant portions of text from a single source without alterations
- Changing key words and phrases but retaining the essential content of the source
- Paraphrases from multiple sources made to fit together
- Borrowing work without citing the source
- Including proper citations but the paper contains almost no original work
- Includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources
- Combines cited sources with copied passages without citations

Plagiarism.org (n.d.) *Types of Plagiarism*. Reproduced with permission from:  
<http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/types-of-plagiarism/>

# Plagiarism Training

## WHY A LECTURE?

- Goals for this course include learning how to understand original sources and write about them in your own words
- Committing plagiarism defeats the purpose of writing assignments. Students who plagiarize are not learning from the assignment.

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## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THEFT

- Citing acknowledges the information source, not how the information is originally conveyed
- Copying how the information is originally conveyed is taking someone else's hard work and passing it off as your own
- Plagiarizing is intellectual property theft

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## SHOWING CRITICAL THINKING

- When writing you want to make it clear that you understood the source, and can think critically about the source
- If you plagiarize the reader will likely believe either that you did not understand, or could not think critically about, the source

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## TYPES OF PLAGIARISM

Intentional	Unintentional
Copying a friend's work	Poor documentation
Buying or borrowing other papers, or using your own previous papers	Careless paraphrasing
Cutting and pasting text from other sources	



## PEOPLE HAVE PROBABLY PLAGIARIZED IF

- They have included others' words and ideas in their work without citation
- They didn't really understand a source but wrote about it anyway
- They couldn't think of any other way to say what the original author said



## PARAPHRASING

If a student uses or relies on others' work in preparing any academic materials (e.g., written assignments, posters, presentations) the student must cite the source correctly according to the directions provided by the instructor. Failure to do so is plagiarism. Copying and pasting even part of a sentence or phrase is plagiarism, even when the source is cited correctly. Paraphrasing a source in a way that copies the phrase or sentence structure of a source is also plagiarism. To avoid plagiarism, students are expected to properly paraphrase others' ideas.

Improper paraphrasing  
is plagiarism

- Proper paraphrasing summarizes the original source using different language, phrasing, and sentence structure than the original source



# Plagiarism Worksheet



# Plagiarism Contract

## Plagiarism Contract

Read the statement below and sign/date beneath it to indicate your agreement.

I have read the policies on plagiarism from the university, the department, and the instructor, and understand them. My instructor has provided me with materials that I have reviewed and understood regarding what plagiarism is, how to recognize it, how to avoid it, and what the penalties are for committing plagiarism in this course. If I had any questions about plagiarism, I have addressed them in person with my instructor to my satisfaction.

I will do everything I can to avoid committing plagiarism, including (but not restricted to) allowing sufficient preparation time for assignments, saving electronic drafts of my assignments at each stage of development, and taking notes in my own words from outside sources that I use. Any work I submit with my name on it will reflect my own ideas and effort. I will properly cite all material that is not my own.

I understand that there is no acceptable excuse for committing plagiarism and that doing so is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Should plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, be found in my work for this course, the incident will be reported to the relevant authorities at the department, college, and university level. The penalty for this violation may range from a 0 on part the relevant assignment to an F in the course, depending on the severity of the violation and my documented history of academic misconduct. The academic and disciplinary penalties for my misconduct are at the discretion of my instructor. Should I be found to demonstrate a pattern of academic misconduct, I may be placed on academic probation, or – in more extreme circumstances -- suspended or expelled from the university.

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Signature

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Printed Name

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Date

**ASSESSING WHAT STUDENTS  
LEARNED  
(Plagiarism Quiz)**

# Plagiarism Quiz

- True or False: A person can get in trouble for plagiarism only if the person intended to plagiarize.
- Which of the following is not an error that will result in plagiarism?
  - Paraphrasing other people's information and citing the source of that information.
  - Failing to properly cite one's sources.
  - Over-relying on someone else's words.
  - Over-relying on someone else's organizational structure.

# Plagiarism Quiz

Last semester you spent a great deal of time researching a topic for a class and wrote an involved paper on the topic. The next semester, a different instructor asks you to write a similar paper. You turn in the same exact paper for the new class, without mentioning that it is the same paper that you have already turned in. This is a type of plagiarism.

- True
- False

# Catching Plagiarism

- SafeAssign
- TurnItIn
- iThenticate (offered by plagiarism.com)
- Viper
- PlagiarismChecker.com



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# APA Style



Depression: Symptoms and Common  
Treatment Approaches  
Midterm Paper  
RITA OBEID

# APA Style

[Powerpoint on APA Format](#)

[APA style rubric](#)

**Thank you!**