

LLMC Orientation: Academic Integrity Workshop

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USD School of Law Honor Code

The University of San Diego School of Law is committed to providing a legal education in an environment free from injustices and academic dishonesty.

- This Honor Code establishes the rules that govern the students of the University of San Diego School of Law for all conduct relating to academic matters.
- By virtue of enrollment at the University of San Diego School of Law, all students are on notice of this Honor Code and its provisions.
- Each student is responsible for reading, understanding, and complying with this Honor Code and for reporting any violations of the Honor Code.

-USD School of Law Honor Code:

<http://www.sandiego.edu/law/student-affairs/student-handbook/honor-code.php>

I. Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a violation of this Honor Code.

1. Violations may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Examination Behavior.
 - b. Fabrication.
 - c. Unauthorized Collaboration.
 - d. Plagiarism**
 - e. Misappropriation of Resource Materials.
 - f. Unauthorized Access.
 - g. Violations Defined by Instructor or Supervisor.
 - h. Violations Defined by Student Boards in Academic Matters.

2. A violation may be either an infraction or a serious violation.

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II. Academic Dishonesty: Sanctions and Procedures

- The instructor or supervisor must determine whether (A) no act of academic dishonesty has occurred, (B) an infraction has occurred, or (C) a serious violation probably has occurred.
- Minor infractions may result in a reduction in grade, withdrawal from the course, retaking of the course, additional work for the course.
- Serious violations are handled by the Honor Code Hearing Committee and can result in expulsion, suspension, a letter of censure, the need for additional courses or credits, or other sanctions.

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Consequences of Academic Dishonesty

- **In re Zbiegien**, 433 N.W.2d 871 (Minn. 1988) (investigating an incident of plagiarism while an applicant was in law school delayed the applicant's bar application for one year while the committee conducted its investigation)
- **In re Harper**, 645 N.Y.S.2d 846 (N.Y. App. Div. 1996) (disciplining attorney for failing to disclose on his NY bar application that he was dismissed from a L.L.M. degree program because he was found to have plagiarized a paper)
- **In re Lamberis**, 443 N.E.2d 549 (Ill. 1982) (censuring attorney for plagiarizing a thesis paper in a L.L.M. program and stating "sanctions are appropriate and required because both the extent of the appropriated material and the purpose for which it was used evidence the respondent's complete disregard for values that are most fundamental in the legal profession")

Plagiarism and How to Avoid It

Understanding Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's work as your own.
 - summarizing, paraphrasing, copying, or translating
 - words, ideas, or any other creative work,
 - without proper attribution.
- Plagiarism can be deliberate or accidental; partial or complete.
- - [Plagiarism Tutorial by Ramona Islam, Fairfield University](#)

Examples of Plagiarism

- Buying, stealing, or ghostwriting a paper
- Copying and pasting or using other people's ideas without attribution.
- Paraphrasing an author too lightly

Ensuring Proper Attribution

- The first step in avoiding plagiarism and giving proper documentation is to cultivate good note-taking habits.
- As you take notes, include the bibliographic information you'll need later for a citation. You may want to take advantage of note-taking software like Evernote and Zotero.
- If you cut & paste text from another source to look at later, immediately mark it as copied text.
- Likewise, if you paraphrase material, make sure it is marked clearly with your changes.

Ensuring Proper Attribution (cont.)

- Double-check your work against each source to make sure you have not accidentally plagiarized something.
- Save copies of source material (journal articles, books, online sources) until you have finished writing your paper or until you've received a final grade on the paper.

Paraphrasing

- Paraphrasing is restating the meaning of a segment of text either by expanding and clarifying, or by summarizing the main points.
 - However, it's not enough to simply change a few words around, or replace words with synonyms.
 - Instead, you must rewrite the material using your *own* words.
- Always indicate whose ideas you are paraphrasing by providing a footnote reference (including a page reference)
- Finally, check your paraphrase against the source for accuracy, and modify phrases that match the original too closely.

Bad Paraphrasing

Original Source:

“America today has veered too far in the direction of formal testing without adequate consideration of the costs and limitations of an exclusive emphasis on that approach.”

HOWARD GARDNER, MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES: THE THEORY IN PRACTICE 179 (1993).

Paraphrase Version 1:

America has now gone too far toward formal testing, without realizing the costs and limitations of exclusively emphasizing that approach.¹

¹HOWARD GARDNER, MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES: THE THEORY IN PRACTICE 179 (1993).

Comments

- Although the source is cited, the paraphrasing retains too much of the original wording and sentence structure.

Better Paraphrasing

Original Source:

“America today has veered too far in the direction of formal testing without adequate consideration of the costs and limitations of an exclusive emphasis on that approach.”

HOWARD GARDNER,
MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES:
THE THEORY IN PRACTICE
179 (1993).

Paraphrase Version 1: In the United States, the education system places too much emphasis on formal testing, overlooking the limitations and expenses imposed when that assessment strategy is employed exclusively.¹

¹HOWARD GARDNER, MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES: THE THEORY IN PRACTICE 179 (1993).

Comments

- This paraphrase is different enough from the original source that it would not be considered plagiarism, as long as Gardner is credited.

More Practice and Quizzes

- Indiana University, How to Recognize Plagiarism
<https://plagiarism.iu.edu/>
- Harvard Law School, Plagiarism Quiz
https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_71fT8VnVotpnUep
- CALI Lesson – Plagiarism – Keeping out of Trouble
<https://www.cali.org/lesson/1119>

SafeAssign

- SafeAssign is an area in Blackboard where students can submit drafts of papers to check for possible instances of plagiarism before they submit final drafts to their course instructors.
- SafeAssign is FREE to USD students.
- Papers submitted through SafeAssign will not be saved in Turnitin's database and will not be distributed to instructors.
- For more instructions, see the [SafeAssign section](#) of our [Paper Writing for Seminars and Student Comments research guide](#).

How to use SafeAssign at the LRC

1. Email mabernathy@sandiego.edu to be added to the Legal Research Center Organization
1. When you are ready to submit your paper, login to Blackboard at <https://ole.sandiego.edu/ultra/organizations> and click on the Legal Research Center under the Organizations tab
1. Click on Organization Content
1. Click on View Assignment
1. Upload your document
1. Wait for an Originality Report

Originality Report

safe assign
by Blackboard

EARTH_SYS_SCI - EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE

Opinion Paper

Chris Casper on Wed, May 14 2014, 12:18 PM

26% highest match
Submission ID: e74850c1-2f07-4402-ab59-32294c679ed8

opinion_paper_cc.docx
Word Count: 1,640 | 26%
Attachment ID: 26292511

Citations (3/3)

- 1 Another student's p...
- 2 http://www.discours...
- 3 http://www.emilyjas...

1 A lot of Americans, regardless of whether they are rich or poor have been bread to believe that money equals power and influence.

In Funding Gaps (2006) this is evidential. Students who are born into poverty stricken families will have to live with the fact they are set up to fail in the economy of America. American ideology pretends to believe that if one works hard they will reap the benefits, but that is simply not the case. American history has long battled the struggle between privilege and oppression.

The power that is allocated to one group and stripped from another has been the basis for much of the ideology that shapes America.

this country to serve wealthy white men. Although many would say

2 In the first group of countries, issues of affirmative action, integration, minority policy, and other topics related to multicultural societies are more prominent. The book really shows how devotion to a good cause can really help someone.

SafeAssign compares submitted drafts to its database of scholarly research (journal articles, student papers, and other internet sources) and returns a Originality Report detailing the percentage of text in the submitted paper that matches existing sources.

The report shows the suspected sources for each section of the submitted paper that returns a match.

SafeAssign does not automatically detect plagiarism. It is up to the student to interpret the meaning of the Similarity Report.

For help understanding your Originality Report, please [click here](#).

Questions? Need help?

Contact a librarian!

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