

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

1. What is Plagiarism?

There are many definitions of plagiarism floating about. For our purposes, plagiarism is defined as:

Failure to acknowledge the use of another's ideas, phrasing/language, or other materials and to duly credit your sources. This applies not only to deliberate lack of acknowledgement; negligent or careless failure to acknowledge and credit borrowed materials is also plagiarism.

Common knowledge need not be cited, and failure to do so is not plagiarism. "The earth is round." Fine. No citation needed.

Citation is necessary for both direct and indirect borrowing of material. Whether you quote, summarize, or paraphrase, you must give credit to the original author(s). The mechanics of citation vary case by case (when do you need quotation marks? page numbers?) and are addressed in citation guides. The important point for the purposes of this guide to academic integrity is that you must cite when you reference someone else's work.

If you use the words, ideas, or phrasing of another person or from published material, you must:

- Use quotation marks around the words and cite the source, or
- Paraphrase or summarize acceptably and cite the source.

If you use charts, graphs, data sets, or numerical information obtained from another person or from published material, you must also cite the source.

You must always acknowledge your sources by citing them. In this way, you have the right to use another's creative output by giving that person credit for the work s/he has done. In addition, by doing so you enter into a scholarly conversation and position your own ideas vis-à-vis existing research, which is precisely what you are expected to do. The longer your list of references, the better.

2. Why is Plagiarism a Problem?

First, plagiarism is dishonest. We pair the concepts of plagiarism and academic honesty/integrity because they are opposites. In other words, plagiarism is cheating. Because plagiarism covers a wide spectrum of cheating behaviors, it can be subtler and less deliberate than copying your classmate's homework or test answers, faking lab results, etc., but plagiarism is an equally severe infraction that will result in equally severe consequences.

In Japanese, plagiarism is called *tōsaku* (盗作), which means “stealing (someone’s) work.” Stealing. It is theft of intellectual property, in this case the words or ideas of another person or group. Nagoya University belongs to an intellectual and academic culture in which it is absolutely essential to indicate the provenance of the words and ideas we borrow in order to make our own arguments.

Second, plagiarism detracts from your education. Stealing the work of others does not help you learn. Academic writing is essentially an ongoing conversation among scholars. Professors expect you to do your own thinking and assignments are designed so you can figure out what you think, rather than parroting someone else’s thoughts.

3. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

AI-based tools are increasingly available, and their use raises important issues of academic integrity. Although individual instructors’ policies for AI use may vary, in principle the same standards outlined above apply to AI-generated text, translations, or ideas as to any other source: presenting AI-generated work as your own without proper acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism. If you make use of AI tools, you must clearly indicate—and, depending on the instructor’s requirements, closely document—what was generated and how it was used; failure to do so will be treated as plagiarism.

While AI tools can in some cases serve as limited assistants, overreliance undermines your education by depriving you of the opportunity to learn, think critically, and develop your own voice. Assignments are intended to demonstrate your own understanding, not that of a machine. You should also be aware that many AI tools operate by processing user input on external servers, which raises privacy concerns when uploading personal or unpublished material. AI-generated text may also pose copyright issues.

Finally, individual instructors may set their own policies regarding the limited use of AI—for example, permitting grammar checking but banning stylistic polishing. It is your responsibility to clarify the policy for each course. Always check the syllabus or consult your instructor if you are unsure.

4. Avoiding Plagiarism

There are many excellent sources on the internet from prestigious higher learning institutions around the globe. Here are a few that can serve as preliminary guides for understanding academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism:

- OWL @ Purdue: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
- Harvard’s Student’s Guide to Writing in East Asian Studies: http://writingproject.fas.harvard.edu/files/hwp/files/writing_in_east_asian_studies.pdf
- Academic Integrity @ MIT: <https://integrity.mit.edu/>

5. Consequences of Plagiarism in JACS & LCS Courses

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense. Many institutions of higher learning consider it serious enough to warrant immediate course failure and/or expulsion.

JACS & LCS recognizes both the seriousness of academic dishonesty and the fact that you are students—in other words, learners. Nobody is perfect, and we all deserve an opportunity to grow, learn, and overcome our past mistakes. We will do our best to assist you in avoiding plagiarism, and will be sensitive to the reality that mistakes happen. To avoid putting the faculty in the position of determining what is accidental and what is deliberate, cite thoroughly and proofread even more thoroughly.

With that in mind, you should be aware that dire consequences await plagiarism. You will receive no credit for any deliberately plagiarized assignment, or one that exhibits gross negligence of these guidelines. Egregious or repeated academic dishonesty will result in course failure and potential expulsion from the JACS & LCS program.

6. Sources

The following sources were used in the preparation of this guide:

- Council of Writing Program Administrators. 2014. "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices." <http://wpacouncil.org/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf>
- MIT. 2015. "Academic Integrity at MIT." Accessed February 20. <https://integrity.mit.edu/>
- President and Fellows of Harvard College. 2015. "Harvard Guide to Using Sources." <http://usingsources.fas.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do>
- thevisualcommunicationguy.com. 2014. "Did I Plagiarize? The Types and Severity of Plagiarism Violations." <http://i.kinja-img.com/gawker-media/image/upload/svf7tixzpsrghcov2w8e.jpg>
- Writing Lab, OWL at Purdue, and Purdue University. 2015. "Purdue OWL." <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

I understand the documents and hereby pledge to comply with the rules, regulations and guidelines specified herein.

Date: _____

Signature: _____