

# NSU Undergraduate Research Day: A Celebration of Scholarly and Creative Activity

## *What does it mean to plagiarize?*

Webster's Definition:

“plagiarize: 1. to take and use ideas, passages, etc. from (another's work) by plagiarism.  
plagiarism: 2. the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work.”

Steinmetz, S., et. al. (Eds.). (1998). *Random House Webster's unabridged dictionary*, (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: Random House.

Fairfield University's Definition:

“Plagiarism: the presentation or submission of another's work as your own.

This includes summarizing, paraphrasing, copying, or translating words, ideas, artworks, audio, video, computer programs, statistical data, or any other creative work, without proper attribution.”

The Fairfield University website also states that:

“Plagiarism can be deliberate or accidental. It can be partial or complete...Understanding what constitutes plagiarism is your first step to avoiding it.”

In addition, the Fairfield site lists examples types of plagiarism:

- “
- Copying and pasting from the Internet without attribution
- Buying, stealing, or ghostwriting a paper
- Using ideas or quotations from a source without citation
- Paraphrasing an author too lightly (without proper citation)”

*Fairfield University DiMenna-Nyselium Library Web Page*. Retrieved August 4, 2004, from <http://www.library2.fairfield.edu/text/textplagiarism/textwhatisplag.html>

***What happens if I plagiarize or am suspected of plagiarism?***

- Individual college committees report suspected plagiarism to the Undergraduate Research Day Steering Committee.
- The Undergraduate Research Day Steering Committee reviews the suspected plagiarism and makes the final determination
- If it is determined that plagiarism has not occurred:
  - The student’s faculty mentor will be notified
- If it is determined that plagiarism has occurred:
  - The student’s faculty mentor will be notified
  - The faculty mentor will notify the student
  - The student will be dropped from participation in NSU’s Undergraduate Research Day process

***What if I have further specific questions regarding plagiarism and citing sources while I am working on my project?***

- Talk to your faculty mentor
- Look at the manual for your particular citing style such as APA or MLA (In addition, there are online sources if you do an internet search. The sources listed below have specific examples of various citation styles also.)
- Visit one of the following \*internet sites:
  - [www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml)
  - [www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/plagiarism/](http://www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/plagiarism/)

**REMEMBER--**  
***Avoiding plagiarism is YOUR responsibility. Inadvertent plagiarism is still plagiarism.***

\*There are many other helpful sites if you search “plagiarism” on the internet.  
- Sources in this document are cited in APA format.