How to Avoid Plagiarism & Cheating

Christian Poehlmann: Librarian for Business & Economics
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Learning Outcomes Today

1. Learn the forms of academic dishonesty.
2. Be aware of SUNY Albany’s policies on academic dishonesty.
3. Understand what plagiarism is.
4. Why you must avoid it.
5. Recognize common causes of plagiarism.
6. Learn the 10 types of plagiarism.
7. Strategies to avoid academic dishonesty.
Examples of Academic Dishonesty

• **Plagiarism** (covered in detail later)

• **Cheating on Examinations:**
  – Unauthorized help before, during, or after an examination.

• **Multiple Submission:**
  – Submitting substantial portions of the same work for credit more than once without permission.

• **Falsification:**
  – Misrepresenting material or fabricating information in an academic exercise or assignment.

• ** Forgery:**
  – Imitating another person's signature.
Examples of Academic Dishonesty

• **Sabotage:**
  – Willfully destroying, damaging, or stealing of another's work or working materials.

• **Unauthorized Collaboration:**
  – Collaborating on projects, papers, or other academic exercises when this is forbidden by the instructor(s).

• **Bribery:**

• **Theft, Damage, or Misuse of Library or IT Resources:**
  – Stealing, hiding, or damaging library materials.
  – Any violation of the University’s Responsible Use of Information Technology policy.

• **More details at:**
  – [http://www.albany.edu/graduatebulletin/requirements_degree.htm](http://www.albany.edu/graduatebulletin/requirements_degree.htm)
Penalties for Academic Dishonesty

1. Lowering of a paper or project grade by one full grade or more;

2. Giving a failing grade on a paper containing plagiarized material;

3. Giving a failing grade on any examination in which cheating occurred;

4. Lowering a course grade by one full grade or more; or

5. Giving a failing grade in a course or other academic exercise;

6. Refer a case to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Civic Responsibility.
   a. revoking a scholarship, fellowship, or assistantship;
   b. disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion.

7. Violations of academic integrity may cause difficulties in employment in certain professions.
Plagiarism Defined

• The action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own; literary theft.
  – Oxford English Dictionary

• To use another person's idea or a part of their work and pretend that it is your own.
  – Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary
Why do Students Plagiarize?

• Ignorance
• Lack of perceived punishment
• Careless note-taking
• Time saving device (lack of time management skills)
• Lack of confidence in writing skills
Some Recent Allegations of Plagiarism/Dishonesty

• Fareed Zakaria (journalist)
  – Suspended from Time Magazine for one month (re-instated after one week).
  – Suspended from CNN but allowed to return
  – Resigns From Yale’s Board

• Jonah Lehrer (journalist)
  – Fired from the New Yorker
  – Wired “ended its relationship”
  – Bestselling book pulled from sale
10 Types of Plagiarism & How to Avoid Them

- **Clone**: Submitting another’s work, word-for-word, as one’s own
- **CTRL-C**: Contains significant portions of text from a single source without alterations
- **Find - Replace**: Changing key words and phrases but retaining the essential content of the source
- **Remix**: Paraphrases from multiple sources, made to fit together
- **Recycle**: Borrows generously from the writer’s previous work without citation
- **Hybrid**: Combines perfectly cited sources with copied passages without citation
- **Mashup**: Mixes copied material from multiple sources
- **404 Error**: Includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources
- **Aggregator**: Includes proper citation to sources but the paper contains almost no original work
- **Re-tweet**: Includes proper citation, but relies too closely on the text’s original wording and/or structure

A Natural Setting

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

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A Natural Setting

A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

The Beautiful Yosemite Valley

From the time of its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, possession on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. And Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, while perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

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A Beautiful Setting in Yosemite

Since its first discovery by non-native people in the mid-19th century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even sacred, hold on the American psyche because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mindset, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing political movements, migration patterns and environmental issues as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature.
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An Untouched View

* A History of Settlement and Change in Yosemite Valley

The first non-natives to see Yosemite Valley were probably members of the mid-nineteenth century Joseph Walker Party, who crossed the Sierra Nevada from East to West. The first descriptions of Yosemite came almost 20 years later. From the start, the valley has been renowned for its natural beauty, and highly regarded as the centerpiece of Yosemite National Park, attracting visitors from around the world. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature.
Recycle
Borrows generously from the writer's previous work without citation

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Ecology 201:
_An Unnatural Expectation_
_The Impact of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley_

From its first discovery by the Ahwahneechee in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a unique, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time reflecting changing politics, human migration patterns and the rise of environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

**Hybrid**

Combines perfectly cited sources with copied passages without citation

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Perceived Beauty: Man's Nature

Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley

*Since its first discovery by the Joseph Walker Party in the mid-nineteenth century* 1 "Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all "special temples of Nature."* 2 "While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature. * 3

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1 For an insightful discussion of Walker’s expedition, including an extended description of their first sight of Yosemite Valley, see Walker’s original piece in *The Dakota Times*, May 5, 1853: p. 4.
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Yosemite Valley was first sighted by non-Indians in 1833 by Joseph Rutherford Walker and his group of explorers. Yosemite has a long and diverse cultural history that helped to shape the region, country, and even the world. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature.

4 Harries, G. *A Natural Setting,* p. 41.
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A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley

From its earliest discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a spiritual hold on the American conscience, its beauty is incomparable and has been held up as one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite has a special grip on the western mind, impressions about the Valley have evolved over time, shaped by changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as mankind has become more attuned to its relationship and impact on nature.


Citing Sources

• Why?
  – Citations reflect the careful and thorough work you have put into locating and exploring your sources.
  – Citations help readers understand the context of your argument and are a courtesy to the reader, who may share your interest in a particular area of study.
  – Citations allow you to acknowledge those authors who contributed to your learning and your work.
  – Citations, by illustrating your own learning process, also draw attention to the originality and legitimacy of your own ideas.
  – By citing sources you demonstrate your integrity and skill as a responsible student and participant in your field of study.
Citing Sources

• When
  – Direct quotes of more than one word. If the author’s words are powerful or you need to be specific for your argument, the authors’ words can be used as a direct quote.
  – Paraphrasing or summarizing. If you want to use someone else’s idea to help you make your point or to support your own ideas, in this case you would “translate” the ideas into your own words.
  – Information which may be common knowledge but still unfamiliar to your reader. This would also include statistical information which may be familiar information but still requires confirmation.
  – Not just books or articles should be cited. Any source that you use for information can and should be cited including interviews, websites, TV programs, etc.
  – Whenever you are not sure if something should be cited, err on the side of caution and cite sources.
Common Knowledge? Or Not?

Common Knowledge

• The University at Albany located in Albany, New York and is part of the State University of New York.

Maybe not common knowledge

• The State University of New York was officially established in February of 1948 and currently consists of 64 institutions.¹

How to Cite

• http://libguides.library.albany.edu/citationgenerators

• Some databases will create a citation for you
Tips

• **Start your research early and keep careful notes on all the resources you use.**
  – Include library call numbers and note which electronic database you obtained a work from.
  – Make clear notation about whether you are copying quotations or paraphrasing materials.

• **Start your writing early.**
  – *Start to write before you finish your research.* This allows you time to identify additional information you might need.

• **Get help when you need it.**
  – Instructor, teaching assistants, or librarians. Learning when and where to go to get help or feedback is part of the research process.
Questions?

• A copy of this presentation is here: