

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined in the UM Student Conduct Code as: **Representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own.** Consequences include failing an assignment, failing a course, or even expulsion. For a quick online quiz on what is and isn't plagiarism, see: <http://education.indiana.edu/~frick/plagiarism/item1.html>

When and How to Cite

Knowing when and how to properly cite materials can prevent many instances of plagiarism. This chart provides a good outline of when you need to document your source.

Need to Document	No Need to Document
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you are using or referring to somebody else's words or ideas from a magazine, book, newspaper, song, TV program, movie, Web page, computer program, letter, advertisement, or any other medium • When you use information gained through interviewing another person • When you copy the exact words or a "unique phrase" from somewhere • When you reprint any diagrams, illustrations, charts, and pictures • When you use ideas that others have given you in conversations or over email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you are writing your own experiences, your own observations, your own insights, your own thoughts, your own conclusions about a subject • When you are using "common knowledge" — folklore, common sense observations, shared information within your field of study or cultural group • When you are compiling generally accepted facts • When you are writing up your own experimental results

From: Purdue Online Writing Lab (2006). *Avoiding Plagiarism*. Retrieved Sept. 15, 2006, from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>

Citation Styles

Economics as a discipline does not have a set citation style. The generally accepted citation style for the social sciences is APA (American Psychological Association) style, and that is where I draw these examples. A key thing to remember when creating a bibliography is to be consistent. Punctuation, spacing, capitalization and italicization all count. These rules, when applied correctly, should create a uniform-looking bibliography that will allow others to find the works you cite. For a very complete guide to APA citation, see the APA Style Manual at the Info Center or visit this site: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

