

# TIPS FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

## WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

The appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.

**1** Always acknowledge the contributions of others in your work

**2** Identify the citation source when paraphrasing or summarizing

**3** Provide a citation when in doubt about facts or common knowledge

**4** Always enclose verbatim text in quotation marks with an accompanying citation

**5** Cite primary sources of information not secondary or tertiary

"Don't plagiarize. Express your own thoughts in your own words.... Note, too, that simply changing a few words here and there, or changing the order of a few words in a sentence or paragraph, is still plagiarism. Plagiarism is one of the most serious crimes in academia."<sup>1</sup>

"You paraphrase appropriately when you represent an idea in your own words more clearly and pointedly than the source does. But readers will think that you plagiarize if they can match your words and phrasing with those of your source."<sup>2</sup>



Adapted from *Avoiding Plagiarism, Self-Plagiarism, and Other Questionable Writing Practices: A Guide to Ethical Writing* by Miguel Roig.

View 28 Guidelines to Avoid Plagiarism: <https://ori.hhs.gov/plagiarism-0>

### Citations:

<sup>1</sup> Pechnick, J. A. (2013). *A short guide to writing about biology*, 8th Edition. Boston: Pearson. Page 5.

<sup>2</sup> Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (2008). *The craft of research*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Bright Tunes Music Corp. v. Harrisongs Music, Ltd. (1976). 420 F.Supp. 177 (S.D.N.Y). march\_vol24\_no1.pdf. Page 194.



Executive Vice President for  
Research and Partnerships

Contact: RIO - [researchintegrity@purdue.edu](mailto:researchintegrity@purdue.edu)  
EVPRP - [RCRTraining@purdue.edu](mailto:RCRTraining@purdue.edu)

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