



Department of English and Language Arts

Plagiarism: the act, whether intentional or not, of presenting the ideas, information, words, or thoughts of others as if they were your own.

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Because ours is a community of scholars, the College of Liberal Arts regards academic dishonesty as a serious offense. Academic dishonesty (plagiarism) is an act in which a student claims the work of another (without authorization, attribution, or citation) as his/her own. This includes and is not limited to written, oral, videotape, audiotape, photograph or web site sources. It is in fact a form of stealing.

A student may not use a direct quote, a paraphrase of another's idea, or substantive ideas without providing credit for the source of information. Plagiarism even extends to submitting the same paper or portions of a paper previously written for two different assignments.

Policy:

If an instructor suspects a student of plagiarizing, the instructor may discuss his concerns with the student first because often plagiarism often results from carelessness. The student is then advised or reminded of strategies that safeguard against plagiarism.

If the plagiarism is substantial, the instructor may fail the student, or report the case to the Chair of the Department. In consultation with the Chair of the Department, the instructor may elect to refer the incident to the Departmental Student Faculty Adjudication Committee.

For further information, please review the current Morgan State University Catalog.

Anyone caught plagiarizing any assignment for this class risks receiving, at the very least, an F and zero (0) credit for that assignment. Multiple offenses will certainly result in failure for the entire course, regardless of your cumulative average. Plagiarism on any research paper, whether initial draft or final draft, will result in failure for the entire course, regardless of your cumulative average.

If you have any doubts about whether you are committing plagiarism, consider this:

- *Any time* you introduce a borrowed idea from another person, whether as a Quote, Paraphrase, or Summary, you need to provide proper documentation to acknowledge your source.
- However, simply providing a page full of someone else's words or ideas and then providing a parenthetical citation at the end of it is not sufficient.
- You need to make it clear when you are introducing someone else's thoughts.
- *Any time* you are taking words verbatim from someone else, you *must* use quotation marks.

If you still are unsure, *please* come talk to me. I will gladly let you know when and if you need to provide more documentation.

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

- This policy also applies to Homework assignments. I will ask you questions, the answers to which will be found in the text book. *Do not* copy passages out of the book verbatim without using quotation marks. *Do not* copy other students' work either.
- Group presentations also *must* include detailed documentation for *all* information gathered from outside sources.