Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism and AI-Generated Content

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft and leads to serious sanctions.

Plagiarising means taking someone else's work (scientific findings, hypotheses, ideas) and presenting it as one's own. This is the case when the bibliographic reference to the work in question (name of the author and further relevant information, such as the title of the work, place and date of publication, page number) is omitted. You must acknowledge what you have borrowed or quoted from another author or source.

The following forms of plagiarism can be distinguished:

1. In case of 'insular' plagiarism, i.e. when a sentence fragment is passed off as the student's own without providing adequate bibliographic information, it is at the discretion of the lecturer whether the student is given the opportunity to revise the seminar paper or examination (presentation, assignment, module exam).
2. If a student plagiarises entire text passages and/or lines of argumentation without appropriate references, the examination board of the student's degree programme will determine sanction measures. These usually result in the student failing the seminar or examination (examination achievement is graded as 'insufficient' - 5.0). The examination board documents this decision. In the case of repeat offenses, students may be de-registered from the entire degree programme.

The following example demonstrates the differences between an original text, a plagiarised version and the appropriate adoption of ideas and formulations of others in one's own argumentation:

Here is the original text from Elaine Tyler May's *Myths and Realities of the American Family:*

"Because women's wages often continue to reflect the fiction that men earn the family wage, single mothers rarely earn enough to support themselves and their children adequately. And because work is still organized around the assumption that mothers stay home with children, even though few mothers can afford to do so, child-care facilities in the United States remain woefully inadequate" (May 588-89).

Plagiarism

Since women's wages often continue to reflect the mistaken notion that men are the main wage earners in the family, single mothers rarely make enough to support themselves and their children very well. Also, because work is still based on the assumption that mothers stay home with children, facilities for child care remain woefully inadequate in the United States.

No Plagiarism

Women today still earn less than men — so much less that many single mothers and their children live near or below the poverty line. Elaine Tyler May argues that this situation stems in part from "the fiction that men earn the family wage" (588). May further suggests that the American workplace still operates on the assumption that mothers with children stay home to care for them (589). This assumption, in my opinion, does not have the force it once did. More and more businesses offer in-house day-care facilities.

From: http://webster.commnet.edu/mla.htm; 06.11.2003

AI-Generated Content

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in academic work must align with the principles of academic integrity (see https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/cogsci-students/organizing-your-studies/academic-code-of-conduct-plagiarism). Misrepresenting AI-generated content as your own original work constitutes plagiarism and is subject to disciplinary measures.

AI tools may assist with tasks such as information gathering, structuring of arguments, and improving writing clarity, provided their use is clearly disclosed (including identification of software and date of use) in the Declaration of Authorship at the end of every work submitted for grading. AI tools should not replace your own critical thinking, analysis, or creative process. Submitting AI-generated text or analysis as your own original work without acknowledgment is prohibited.

Please SIGN and SEND this form to cosec@uni-potsdam.de

Submissions of short and long essays for grading must include the following plagiarism declaration at the end of the document.

Plagiarism Declaration

I confirm that this assignment is my own work, is not copied from any other person's work (published or unpublished), and has not previously been submitted for assessment either at the University of Potsdam or elsewhere. By signing this form, I confirm that any use of AI tools will be disclosed in accordance with the above guidelines and all submitted work represents your own intellectual effort unless properly attributed.

Date_____

Name_____

Signature _____

Other resources on plagiarism and how to avoid it:

Saint Leo University: "Avoiding Plagiarism."
https://slulibrary.saintleo.edu/c.php?g=367916&p=2490639. Accessed 31 Mar. 2020.

Purdue OWL: "Avoiding Plagiarism."
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/using_research/avoiding_plagiarism/index.html. Accessed 31 Mar. 2020.

Plagiatsrichtlinie University of Potsdam [German guidelines on plagiarism at UP]:
http://www.uni-potsdam.de/am-up/2011/ambek-2011-01-037-039.pdf. Accessed 31 Mar. 2020.

A brief training that results in a Plagiarism awareness certificate is here:

https://researcheracademy.elsevier.com/interactive-course/display/827/369