

# PLAGIARISM

The Department of English has a firm policy on plagiarism. Most dictionaries define plagiarism quite briefly as “intellectual theft.” As such, it is contrary to all principles of academic integrity and cannot be tolerated. All students are obligated to familiarize themselves with the contents of this website.

## What is plagiarism?

The University of California at Berkeley defines it as follows:

“The use of intellectual material produced by another person without acknowledging its source. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a.) Copying from the writings or works of others into one's academic assignment without attribution, or submitting such work as if it were one's own;
- (b.) Using the views, opinions, or insights of another without acknowledgment; or
- (c.) Paraphrasing the characteristic or original phraseology, metaphor, or other literary device of another without proper attribution.”

Plagiarism is a serious violation of academic and student conduct rules and is punishable at most universities and colleges with a failing grade and possibly more severe action.”

The most frequently occurring types of Plagiarism are:

- 1) Copying *verbatim* sentences or whole paragraphs from somebody else's work without acknowledging the source.
- 2) Copying an argument or a series of arguments from somebody else's work, not verbatim but in paraphrased form, i.e. using your own words. The proper way of paraphrasing an argument is to indicate the source, but also where the argument starts and where it ends.
- 3) Translating a passage from a critical work written in a language other than English.
- 4) Using a secondary source and copying from it a number of quotations that are used to buttress an argument. In this case the sources of the quotations would be provided, but not the source that put them all together. (Referencing the latter is more important than a full documentation of the quotations that were lifted from it.)

## PENALTIES

Depending on the severity of the offence, the student will be dismissed from the course which is then deemed “not taken”, or a “fail” grade. The department will record each case of plagiarism.

If plagiarism has been detected in a student’s essay, subsequent essays of the same student will naturally be closely scrutinized.

## SIGNING AN HONESTY STATEMENT

Whenever a student in our department hands in an essay, the following signed statement must be prefixed:

## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all material in this assignment is my own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others.

I understand the nature of plagiarism. I have read and I agree to the English department’s statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity on the University website at [www.uni-klu.ac.at/iaa](http://www.uni-klu.ac.at/iaa)

---

date

---

signature