



ESCOLA POLITÉCNICA DA UNIVERSIDADE DE SÃO PAULO

PMI-5932

***SCIENTIFIC WRITING FOR RESEARCH
PAPERS IN OIL, GAS AND MINING***

Activity:

How to avoid Plagiarism

Prof. Giorgio de Tomi



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PPMI 5932 – Scientific writing for research papers in oil, gas and mining

HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM

- **Citation**
- **Quotation**
- **Paraphrasing**
- **Plagiarism**
- **Reference Management Systems**



CITATION

A "citation" is the way you tell your readers that certain material in your work came from another source. It also gives your readers the information necessary to find that source again, including:

- information about the author
- the title of the work
- the name and location of the company that published your copy of the source
- the date your copy was published
- the page numbers of the material you are borrowing



CITATION (cont.)

Q: The use of citations make my work seem less original?

A: Not at all.

On the contrary, citing sources actually helps your reader distinguish your ideas from those of your sources. This will actually emphasize the originality of your own work.



CITATION (cont.)

Q: When do I need to cite?

A: Whenever you borrow words or ideas, you need to acknowledge their source.

The following situations almost always require citation:

- whenever you use quotes or whenever you paraphrase;
- whenever you use an idea that someone else has already expressed;
- whenever you make specific reference to the work of another;
- whenever someone else's work has been critical in developing your own ideas.



CITATION (cont.)

Citation formats*:

Cite ✕

MLA	Strang, Steven. "Staffing a writing center with professional tutors." <i>The writing center director's resource book</i> (2006): 291-299.
APA	Strang, S. (2006). Staffing a writing center with professional tutors. <i>The writing center director's resource book</i> , 291-299.
Chicago	Strang, Steven. "Staffing a writing center with professional tutors." <i>The writing center director's resource book</i> (2006): 291-299.
Harvard	Strang, S., 2006. Staffing a writing center with professional tutors. <i>The writing center director's resource book</i> , pp.291-299.
Vancouver	Strang S. Staffing a writing center with professional tutors. <i>The writing center director's resource book</i> . 2006 Mar 23:291-9.

[BibTeX](#) [EndNote](#) [RefMan](#) [RefWorks](#)

(*) See also: ABNT Citation format.



QUOTATION

- A quotation must use the exact words of the source.
- If the quotation is relatively short (usually fewer than 3 lines or 40 words), those words must be enclosed in quotation marks.
- For instance ...



QUOTATION (cont.)

As Steven Strang points out, “Contrary to some popular notions, most writers do not have full-blown ideas popping out of their heads like Athena” (48).

- Notice that the quotation is introduced (“As Steven Strang points out”), that the exact words are enclosed in quotation marks, and that the page number is given (using, in this case, the MLA style).
- At the end of the paper, there would be an exact citation in the list of references.



PARAPHRASE

To paraphrase is to put the ideas in a passage into our own words, usually following the order in which the ideas were presented in the original.

- All major ideas are included.
- Usually a paraphrase is a bit shorter than the original, but when terms or concepts have to be defined, a paraphrase might actually be longer.
- Any paraphrase requires the same kind of citation as an exact quotation.



PLAGIARISM

- Plagiarism is the use of someone else's ideas or language **without acknowledging** that they were not created by you.
- This definition applies to ideas, words and unusual structures regardless of where you find them—in a book, on a webpage, in an email.
- Whenever you include another person's information or wording in a document, **you must acknowledge the source** and **include a citation** that will tell your readers where you obtained it—otherwise you are guilty of plagiarism.
- Plagiarism is sometimes seen as **intellectual theft—plagiarism**.



ACCIDENTAL PLAGIARISM

- **Cultural confusion:** There are many cultural differences in the way people use the ideas and language of others. In the United States, plagiarism is a serious offense. So, the old advice—“when in Rome, do as the Romans do”—applies to the use of sources.
- **Difficult concepts:** At times we slide into plagiarism when we are dealing with concepts that we simply do not understand, and it seems that the best way to convey those ideas to our readers is simply to use the words of the original author.
- **Botched paraphrasing:** It is another way that we can unintentionally slip into plagiarism because we end up using large chunks of phrasing from the original or using the ideas without proper citation.



CONSEQUENCES OF PLAGIARISM

- Plagiarism in the academic world can lead to everything from **failure for the course** to **expulsion from the university**.
- Plagiarism in the professional world can lead to, at the very least, **profound embarrassment** and **loss of reputation** and, often, to **loss of employment**.
- There are several famous cases of plagiarism. Such plagiarism is often accidental, but its consequences are the same as for intentional plagiarism.



AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

Avoid plagiarism by Citing Sources. There are five basic rules regarding the use of information in professional and in academic writing:

- If you use ideas or information that are not common knowledge, **you must cite the source.**
- If **you didn't invent it**, cite the source.
- When in doubt, **cite the source.** Doing so can only enhance your readers sense of **your honesty.**



REFERENCES MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

- There are References Management Systems available for the researchers to assist with the **organization and the formatting of citations**, and with the **management of the lists of references** for scientific papers.
- These tools are useful for the **setting up, indexing and citation management** of all the literature references you use in your paper.
- These systems are **integrated into MS-Word** and can usually be **downloaded** and used at no cost.



REFERENCES MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (cont.)

Some of the most popular systems are:

- **EndNote** (<http://endnote.com/>)
- **Mendeley** (<https://www.mendeley.com/>)

The use of such tools ensures the quality and the integrity of the indexing of your citations, which is a **common challenge** in the preparation of scientific papers and documents.

NAP.Mineração/USP has a **tutorial for the installation and use of Mendeley**, and its integration to MS-Word. The tutorial is available under request.