

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Plagiarism Policy

Integrity extends to all parts of the Christian's life and character. This includes the Christian's academic life. Plagiarism is defined in the APA Manual as the act of presenting the words, ideas, or images of another person as your own without giving proper credit. Plagiarism is not limited to word-for-word copying: it includes any false assumption of authorship, including paraphrasing lines of reasoning from printed sources and copying or stealing from an unpublished writer. Although it can be unintentional, plagiarism is always a serious offense.

Examples of intentional plagiarism include but are not limited to: buying a paper from a public source, copying material from a printed source, soliciting, or allowing someone to submit material for you, the usage of artificial intelligence (AI) and submitting previously written material without the consent of the faculty members. In graduate studies, since a student relies heavily on published scholarly material, it is increasingly important to avoid any appearance of plagiarism, and APA standards for giving proper credit for both general ideas and direct quotes should always be followed. It is also considered "unethical to fabricate citations and/or reference entries" and to "hire someone else to write a paper (contract cheating)" (APA, 2020, p. 256).

Any submitted academic work may be checked for academic dishonesty by plagiarism and AI detection programs. Should an instructor discover that a student has intentionally or unintentionally plagiarized any portion of a submitted assignment, s/he will immediately notify the Dean of Graduate Studies and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. This will include a failing grade for the assignment and possibly an automatic "F" for the entire course. This grade shall take precedence over a course withdrawal received by the Registrar's Office on the same day or later than the instance of academic dishonesty.

Graduate students may also be dismissed from the entire program. Any modification of the above disciplinary action will be considered only if the student files an appeal to the Graduate Appeals Committee through the Graduate Studies Office.

[GRADUATE STUDIES ASSIGNMENT COVERSHEET](#) is required for each assignment submitted in which the student verifies the authorship of their work.