

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

Each student's honesty and integrity are taken for granted. However, if your instructor finds evidence of academic misconduct, he will pursue the matter to the fullest extent permitted by the university. University policy states "students guilty of academic misconduct are subject to disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials" (Tarleton State University Catalog; Tarleton State University Student Handbook/Planner). Students are strongly advised to avoid even the appearance of academic misconduct. For the purposes of your courses, the definition stated in the American Psychological Association's (1992) Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct will be used. The principles state "Psychologists do not present substantial portions or elements of another's work or data as their own, even if the work or data source is cited occasionally." In other words, any time you use someone else's words or ideas you must cite the source of that information. Furthermore, the American Counseling Association's Code of Ethics (1995) states, "When conducting and reporting research, counselors are familiar with and give recognition to previous work on the topic, observe copyright laws, and give full credit to those whom credit is due."

When you use a source's actual words, you must place those words in quotation marks (or a block quote) and credit the source of the information (i.e., cite the author[s] name[s] and the year of publication) along with the page number(s) where the information is located in the source document. Please note - the quotation requirement (either using quotation marks or block quotes) is not circumvented when the writer simply changes a few words in a passage written by someone else.

When you use another person's ideas, but not their exact words, you must cite them as the source in the text of the paper. According to APA style, the author(s) name(s) and date of publication must be included in, or immediately follow, the writer's statement of information from the source.

A portion of the final grade in many courses will be determined by the student's development of an original proposal, paper, reference list, literature review, or project. In the present context, the term "original" is defined as: (a) the product of the student's own library research and intellectual work, and (b) created expressly for each individual course. Therefore, it is NOT acceptable to "recycle" proposals, literature reviews, papers or projects from other courses, fellow students, or other sources.

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