

# Plagiarism: What Is It?

Presenting the work of another person (including words, ideas, data, evidence, thoughts, information, organizing principles, or style of presentation) as one's own and without proper citation.

## Plagiarism includes:

- Failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas
- Failing to enclose borrowed language in quotations
- Failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words

## What Are The Consequences?

*SUNY Canton's policy on plagiarism is as follows (from Student Handbook, p. 12, Section 8.2):*

**"In those instances where cheating, plagiarism, and/or alteration of academic documents is proven, a student will be subject to a grade of "F" for the specific assignment and/or course."**

### Deliberate Plagiarism:

- Buying a paper
- Stealing a paper
- Having someone else write any part of your paper
- Borrowing a paper
- Copying from another source without citing on purpose

### Accidental Plagiarism:

- Paraphrasing too closely to the original without citing
- Expanding on someone else's ideas without paraphrasing

### Cite:

- Whenever you use someone else's idea found in any source
- If you received the information during an interview
- If you copy a chart, graph, or picture

### Do Not Cite:

- If you are using an idea that is your own
- If the information that you are using is common knowledge (includes standard information—facts or dates from history, folk literature, and commonsense observations)

***Recommendation: "If in doubt, cite!"***

\*Adapted from handout created by Anna Bosco for SLU Writing Center