

## Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft and results in serious sanctions.

Plagiarism takes someone else's work (scientific findings, hypotheses, ideas) and presents it as one's own. This is the case when the bibliographic reference to the work in question (name of the author and further relevant information, such as the title of the work, place and date of publication, page number) is omitted. You must acknowledge what you have borrowed or quoted from another author or source.

The following forms of plagiarism can be distinguished:

1. In the case of 'insular' plagiarism, i.e. when a student passes off a sentence fragment as their own without providing adequate bibliographic information, it is at the discretion of the lecturer whether the student is given the opportunity to revise the seminar paper or examination (presentation, assignment, module exam).
2. If a student plagiarises entire text passages and/or lines of argumentation without appropriate references, the examination board of the MA Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture will determine sanction measures. These usually result in the failure of the seminar or examination (examination achievement is graded as 'insufficient' - 5.0). The examination board documents this decision. In the case of repeat offenses, students can be de-registered from the entire degree programme.

The following example demonstrates the differences between an original text, a plagiarized version and the appropriate adoption of ideas and formulations of others into one's own argumentation:

Here is the original text from Elaine Tyler *May's Myths and Realities of the American Family*:

"Because women's wages often continue to reflect the fiction that men earn the family wage, single mothers rarely earn enough to support themselves and their children adequately. And because work is still organized around the assumption that mothers stay home with children, even though few mothers can afford to do so, child-care facilities in the United States remain woefully inadequate" (May 588-89).

Plagiarism

Since women's wages often continue to reflect the mistaken notion that men are the main wage earners in the family, single mothers rarely make enough to support themselves and their children very well. Also, because work is still based on the assumption that mothers stay home with children, facilities for child care remain woefully inadequate in the United States.

No Plagiarism

Women today still earn less than men — so much less that many single mothers and their children live near or below the poverty line. Elaine Tyler May argues that this situation stems in part from "the fiction that men earn the family wage" (588). May further suggests that the American workplace still operates on the assumption that mothers with children stay home to care for them (589). This assumption, in my opinion, does not have the force it once did. More and more businesses offer in-house day-care facilities.

From: <http://webster.commnet.edu/mla.htm>; 06.11.2003

**Submissions of short and long essays for grading must include the following plagiarism declaration at the end of the document.**

Plagiarism Declaration

I confirm that this assignment is my own work, is not copied from any other person's work (published or unpublished), and has not previously been submitted for assessment either at the University of Potsdam or elsewhere.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Other resources on plagiarism and how to avoid it

Saint Leo University: "Avoiding Plagiarism."

<https://slulibrary.saintleo.edu/c.php?g=367916&p=2490639>. Accessed 31 Mar. 2020.

Purdue OWL: "Avoiding Plagiarism."

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/using\\_research/avoiding\\_plagiarism/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/using_research/avoiding_plagiarism/index.html). Accessed 31 Mar. 2020.

Plagiatsrichtlinie University of Potsdam [German]: <http://www.uni-potsdam.de/am-up/2011/ambek-2011-01-037-039.pdf>. Accessed 31 Mar. 2020.