

# Plagiarism and Citation Styles in Economics

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# Tonight's Agenda

- Definition of plagiarism
- Types of plagiarism
- What is the problem with plagiarism?
- Plagiarism quiz
- Tips for avoiding plagiarism
- Citation formats and styles
- Conclusion

# What is Plagiarism?

- “Plagiarism is taking credit for someone else’s words or ideas...[i]t is a form of academic dishonesty” (Greenlaw, 2006, p. 77).
- Key parts of definition:
  - “words” (structure)
  - “ideas” (content)
  - “dishonesty”

# What is Plagiarism?

- Add to the above definition: “double dipping”
  - Submitting written work for credit more than once
  - Particularly relevant for student work
  - Example: A political science term paper from the past resubmitted in a public finance class
  - Solution: Discuss your desire to revisit the work and expand upon it; get permission!

# Types of Plagiarism

- Four characteristics of plagiarism:
  - Plagiarized words: Copying how something is written either word-for-word or the structure
  - Plagiarized ideas: Claiming ownership of a unique idea that is not yours
  - Unintentional: Plagiarism that occurs by mistake
  - Intentional: Plagiarism done on purpose

# Types of Plagiarism

- Four characteristics of plagiarism:

	Words	Ideas
Unintentional	Most frequent	Most frequent
Intentional	Biggest problem	Biggest problem

# What is the Problem with Plagiarism?

- Does not give due credit to contributions to a discipline
- Does not allow the author (plagiarizer) to show her true understanding about the state of knowledge in a given field
- It often damages one's academic and professional career
- It is dishonest, and betrays the trust of one's readers

# Plagiarism Quiz

- The following exercise is a quiz on detecting plagiarism
- Take five minutes to read an excerpt from a scholarly work
- We will examine 10 samples of writing that use the source material and evaluate whether each writing sample is plagiarized or not



# Tips for Avoiding Plagiarism

- Be aware of what plagiarism is
- Plan your research and writing ahead, and work on it gradually over time
- Take careful research notes:
  - Begin notes with full citation of source
  - Mark direct quotations (“...”) and note page numbers in source
  - Check your paraphrasing against the source

# Tips for Avoiding Plagiarism

- In the paper itself:
  - Quotations: Use them if the source's own words are forceful and convey meaning well
  - Any phrases/sentences you take from a source must:
    - Have quotation marks around them
    - Cite the source's page number(s) at the end of the sentence with the direct quotation

# Tips for Avoiding Plagiarism

- In the paper itself:
  - Paraphrasing: Use your own words *and* your own structure
  - Cite the work at the beginning of your summary of it (e.g., Shunda (2006) studies X and finds Y...)
  - Cite the source's page number(s) at the end of your paraphrasing

# Plagiarism Resources Online

- Academic Integrity at UNC-Chapel Hill:
  - <http://integrity.unc.edu/resources.html>
  - Large list of links to plagiarism quizzes, tutorials, and tips on detecting and avoiding plagiarism
- Diana Hacker's Research and Documentation Online:
  - <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>
  - Examples of various citation styles and sample papers for each

# Plagiarism Resources Online

- Online Writing Lab at Purdue University:
  - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>
  - A fairly thorough tutorial on detecting and avoiding plagiarism with a concluding plagiarism quiz
- Indiana University-Bloomington Writing Tutorial Services:
  - <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>
  - A plagiarism tutorial with several examples of both good and bad practices

# Citation Formats and Styles

- There are several major citation styles:
  - American Psychological Association (APA): Used in social science papers
  - “Chicago” Style: Used in history and some social science papers
  - Council of Science Editors (CSE): Used in natural science papers
  - Modern Language Association (MLA): Used in humanities papers

# APA In-Text Citations

- Author's name (Year of publication) finds that blah, blah, blah.
- **Examples:**
  - Knoblauch (2005) examines the implications of generators' strategic behavior for the procurement cost performance of alternative auction rules. [Single author]
  - McAfee and McMillan (1987) review the major results for single unit auctions. [Two authors]
  - Luh et al. (2006) develop a solution methodology for the payment cost minimization problem. [Three or more authors]

# APA In-Text Citations

- Author's name (Year of publication) asserts "something from the source" (pages from source for quotation).
- **Example:** Knoblauch (2005) argues that "when strategic behavior is taken into account, we find that the new auction does not always outperform the old auction" (p. 12).



# APA In-Text Citations

- Author's name (Year of publication, pages from source for quotation) asserts "something from the source."
- **Example:** Knoblauch (2005, p. 12) argues that "when strategic behavior is taken into account, we find that the new auction does not always outperform the old auction."

# APA In-Text Citations

- “Something from the source” (Author’s name, Year of publication, pages from source for quotation).
- **Example:** “When strategic behavior is taken into account, we find that the new auction does not always outperform the old auction” (Knoblauch, 2005, p. 12).

# APA In-Text Citations

- Original source author's name (Year of publication) says blah, blah, blah that you are citing indirectly from another source (cf. information for source from which you are citing).
- **Example:** The central result of Coase (1960) requires clearly assigned property rights, costless bargaining, and perfect information to work (cf. Barleycorn, 2005, p. 125).

# APA In-Text Citations

- Author's name (Year of publication) asserts

something really long, over three lines long, from the source (pages from source for quotation).

- **Example:** In a study on auctions with entry, Shunda (2006) finds that

There is a competitive effect of entry that leads entrants to bid more aggressively and thus drive up prices as long as the number of entrants is above some critical number. There is also a market power effect of entry that features relatively lax bidding and low prices when the number of entrants is below some critical number (p. 33).

# APA In-Text Citations

- Author's name (Year of publication, pages from source for quotation) asserts

something really long, over three lines long, from the source.

- **Example:** In a study on auctions with entry, Shunda (2006, p. 33) finds that

There is a competitive effect of entry that leads entrants to bid more aggressively and thus drive up prices as long as the number of entrants is above some critical number. There is also a market power effect of entry that features relatively lax bidding and low prices when the number of entrants is below some critical number.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- Explicit section at end of paper
- Section title: “References” or “Works Cited”
- Sources appear in alphabetical order:
  - By (lead) author’s last name
  - By first letter of organization name
- Hanging indentation for source’s second line and onward

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Books:** Author's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year of publication). *Title of Book*. Name of Publishing Company. Location.
- **Examples:**

Williamson, O. E. (1985). *The Economic Institutions of Capitalism*. The Free Press. New York.

Nelson, R. R., & Winter, S. G. (1982). *An Evolutionary Theory of Economic Change*. Belknap Press. Cambridge.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Edited Volumes:** Editor's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Ed.). (Year of publication). *Title of Book*. Name of Publishing Company. Location.

- **Examples:**

Feldstein, M. (Ed.). (1989). *International Economic Cooperation*. University of Chicago Press. Chicago.

Garud, R., Kumaraswamy, A., & Langlois, R. (Eds.). (2003). *Managing in the Modular Age: Architectures, Networks, and Organizations*. Blackwell Publishing. Malden.



# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Selections from Edited Volumes:** Author's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year of publication). Title of Selection, in Editor's first initial. Middle initial. Last name (Ed.). *Title of Book*. Name of Publishing Company. Location. Pages.
- **Example:**

Leijonhufvud, A. (1986). Capitalism and the Factory System, in R. N. Langlois (Ed.). *Economics as a Process: Essays in the New Institutional Economics*. Cambridge University Press. New York. 203-223.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Periodical Articles:** Author's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (year of publication). Title of Article. *Name of Periodical*, *Volume*(Number), Pages.

- **Examples:**

Feldstein, M. (1974). Social Security, Induced Retirement, and Aggregate Capital Accumulation. *Journal of Political Economy*, 82(5), 905-926.

Harstad, R. M., Kagel, J. H., & Levin, D. (1990). Equilibrium Bid Functions for Auctions with an Uncertain Number of Bidders. *Economics Letters*, 33(1), 35-40.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Two or More Works by Same Author, Same Year:** Author's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year of publication letter). Title of Article. *Name of Periodical*, Volume(Number), Pages.

- **Example:**

McAfee, R. P., & McMillan, J. (1987a). Auctions with a Stochastic Number of Bidders. *Journal of Economic Theory*, 43(1), 1-19.

McAfee, R. P., & McMillan, J. (1987b). Auctions with Entry. *Economics Letters*, 23(4), 343-347.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Working Papers:** Author's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year of publication). Title of Working Paper. Working paper, Lead Author's Affiliation.

- **Examples:**

Shunda, N. (2005). Strategic Behavior in Day-Ahead and Real-Time Markets for Electricity. Working paper, University of Connecticut.

Shaw, P., Katsaiti, M.-S., & Jurgilas, M. (2006). Corruption and Growth Under Weak Identification. Working paper, University of Connecticut.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Government Reports:** Name of government organization. (Year of publication). Title of Report. Name of Publishing Company. Location.

- **Examples:**

U.S. Congressional Budget Office. (1998). Social Security and Private Saving: A Review of the Empirical Evidence. U.S. Government Printing Office. Washington, D.C.

U.S. Department of State. (2006). Trafficking in Persons Report 2006. U.S. Government Printing Office. Washington, D.C.

# APA-Style Reference Lists

- **Online Materials:** Author's last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year of publication). Title of Source. Retrieved Month Day, Year, from <http://addressofsource>.

- **Examples:**

Shunda, N. (2005). Strategic Behavior in Day-Ahead and Real-Time Markets for Electricity. Retrieved October 30, 2006, from <http://ideas.repec.org/p/uct/uconnp/2005-48.html>.

United Nations (1948). Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Retrieved October 30, 2006, from <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>.

# APA Citation Resources Online

- Online Writing Lab at Purdue University:
  - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>
  - A thorough reference on APA citation style for various types of sources
- Diana Hacker's Research and Documentation Online:
  - <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>
  - Examples of various citation styles and sample papers for each

# Conclusion

- Plagiarism is a problem that can be glaring or subtle, but it is always serious; avoid it!
- Knowing what plagiarism is and how to detect it in writing can help you to avoid it in your writing
- Familiarity with a standard citation style (e.g., APA) and forcing yourself to stick with it can help you:
  - Organize your sources in your research notes
  - Organize your sources for your reader
  - Avoid plagiarism in your writing



# Resources for Writing in Economics

- Steven A. Greenlaw *Doing Economics: A Guide to Understanding and Carrying Out Economic Research*. Houghton Mifflin Company. New York. 2006.
- <http://college.hmco.com/economics/greenlaw/research/1e/students/index.html>
- Deirdre N. McCloskey *Economical Writing*. Waveland Press, Inc. Prospect Heights. 2000.
- <http://www.waveland.com/Titles/McCloskey.htm>
- Robert H. Neugeboren *The Student's Guide to Writing Economics*. Routledge. New York. 2005.
- [http://www.routledge-ny.com/shopping\\_cart/products/product\\_detail.asp?sku=&isbn=0415701236&parent\\_id=&pc](http://www.routledge-ny.com/shopping_cart/products/product_detail.asp?sku=&isbn=0415701236&parent_id=&pc)

# Remaining Talks in the Series

- “Research Methods in Economics”  
Thursday, February 15, 3:00-4:30pm  
Monteith 339
- “What is a Literature Review?”  
Wednesday, February 21, 3:00-4:30pm  
Monteith 339
- “Outlining, Organization, and Cohesion”  
Monday, March 12, 7:00-8:30pm  
Monteith 339
- “The Analytical Essay”  
Tuesday, March 20, 3:00-4:30pm  
Monteith 339
- “Presenting Statistical Evidence and Graphical Information in Written Work”  
Wednesday, April 4, 3:00-4:30pm  
Monteith 339