

Welcome to the course on
Plagiarism
Titilola Obilade

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The outline is an advance organizer informing students of what to expect in the lesson on plagiarism.

Outline

- Shared Objective
- Reflections
- Definition of Plagiarism
- Four Authentic Examples of Plagiarism
- Live Audio Chat
- Assessment

Shared Objective

This slide gives a shared objective for everyone in the class. The students are all undergraduate students of Journalism

At the end of this lesson, you would all create an electronic portfolio on how your experiences in this class has affected your perception on plagiarism.

This slide addresses shared goals, distributed expertise and a positive interdependence. The students would comment on one another's reflections. They all share a goal on graduating from the class and in addition, they would learn about plagiarism.

- For the first 15 minutes of this class, write about something regrettable that you did that is still affecting you today and how you could have avoided the entire situation.
- Post your write up on the discussion board for the entire class.
- Look at the reflections of five other students on the discussion board and post your comments about their reflections.
- Also, read through my own reflection about a regrettable action that is affecting me till today.
- Also, when other students comment on your write-up, comment in return.
- I would also comment on your reflections and comments.
- Remember to keep the discussions polite.

Instructor's Reflection

In this paper, I am hypothetically a "Journalist" ;). As a journalist and as their instructor, I am an insider sharing my own personal experiences with the learning environment.

I am also giving anchored instruction from their comments and my feedback.

In terms of motivation, it is a vicarious experience.

I loaned someone my kindergarten class picture to use for a school exhibition. She lost the picture and I now wish I had made a copy of that picture. I have not been able to get another copy of my kindergarten class picture and that was the only copy I had.

The definition of plagiarism is stated. Further, the long term consequences of plagiarism is mentioned; that some people get caught after many years. In terms of motivation, the students are noting the attributions of plagiarism.

- **Plagiarism:** The 2012 Merriam-Webster online dictionary defines plagiarism as “ To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one’s own without crediting the source”
- Plagiarism is not tolerated at Virginia Tech.
- Some people plagiarize and do not get caught but some can be caught after many years and would still be punished.

- For the next part of this lesson, you would be given scenarios of events that happened in the life of people that plagiarized but were caught several years later or soon after the fact.
- After reading the case scenarios, each student would write a reflection paper on each of the cases presented and on how plagiarism can eventually catch up with you.
- You would comment on each other's postings and I would give my feedback.
- After you would have all posted your reflections on the discussion boards, you would be joined by a retired professor of English Literature who would be available for a live chat about plagiarism at 11 am EST. This live chat would be recorded and made available for listening at a later time. Have your questions ready for the retired professor.
- After viewing all the case analyses, you would also be joined in a live chat by a journalist from a major newspaper.

This retired professor of English Literature is a boundary member to the students of journalism because he is not a journalist but is a speaker that wants to speak about good journalism. I am also giving anchored instruction. The Journalist for the major newspaper is an insider because he is already a journalist.

Case Analysis 1

Please click on the link and read the article.

- <http://www.npr.org/2012/11/24/165790164/a-wave-of-plagiarism-cases-strikes-german-politics>
- The title of the article is ***A wave of plagiarism cases strikes German politics.***
- In this article, the German minister of Education is accused of plagiarizing her doctoral dissertation and is being asked to step down.

In this case analysis, the students are having a mutual engagement because they would all comment and the instructor would give a feedback.

Case Analysis 2

- <http://www.npr.org/blogs/ombudsman/2012/07/20/157133625/forgiving-the-unforgiveable-sin-of-plagiarism>
- The title of the second case analysis is: ***Forgiving the unforgiveable sin of plagiarism***. Please take time to read the entire length of this long article as the plagiarized article is towards the end of the entire article. An intern plagiarized 68 words from a 2001 article. He witnessed the incidence he reported. However, he juxtaposed his report with a previous report done in 2001.

Similarly, in this case analysis, the students are having a mutual engagement because they would all comment and the instructor would give a feedback.

Case Analysis 3

- <http://www.npr.org/2011/08/03/138937778/plagiarism-plague-hinders-chinas-scientific-ambition>
- The title of the third case analysis is ***plagiarism plague hinders China's scientific ambition***.
- In this article, the director of a journal used Cross Check Text analysis software tool to check for plagiarism in the submitted articles. She found that 40 percent of the articles submitted were plagiarized.

This case analysis also involves mutual engagement.

Case Analysis 4

- <http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2012/08/10/158589006/time-magazine-suspends-fareed-zakarias-column-after-plagiarism-claim>
- The title of this article is ***Time magazine suspends Fareed Zakarias' column after plagiarism claim***. Fareed Zakarias, writes a column in Time Magazine and is the host to a program on CNN. He lifted most parts of an article on gun control from another writer's article on gun control.

Case analyses 2 and 4 are examples of plagiarism in journalism. These examples connects them to a larger community because the students are future journalists and these are authentic examples of plagiarism.

Live Audio Chat

- At 12.30 EDT, you would be able to participate in a live audio chat with a journalist from a major newspaper.
- Please have your questions ready. Your participation would be included in your grades.
- A recorded version of the audio chat would be available.

The Journalist for the major newspaper is an insider.

Assessment

After you have:

- 1.) Written your own reflection on something regrettable that you did that you still remember today.
- 2.) Completed your reflections on the four case studies.
- 3.) Gotten feedback from me from your reflections.
- 4.) Gotten comments from at least five members of the class on your reflections.
- 5.) Listened to the audio chat [on plagiarism] by the retired professor of English Literature.
- 6.) Participated in the on line chat with the journalist from a major newspaper

Then

Create your own e-portfolio of your perception of plagiarism .

Assessment is through the various feedback, the participation in the audio chats and also from the e-portfolio.