

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY REFRESHER

Intellectual Honesty and Transparency

- The goal of research and scholarship is to contribute to our communal search for knowledge and wisdom. We cite our sources for two main reasons:
 - o **To give credit where credit is due**
 - o **To help others find our sources as they do their own work**
- Whenever you take information from a source, you should cite it, so you can help others access that same information, and honor the original work.
 - o **Not sure how to properly cite?** First, ask your professor if they have a preferred style. (Here is a quick link for basics: <https://library.wcupa.edu/citing/>)

Know the parameters of your assignment!

- Some instructors may explicitly ask you not to consult outside sources, or ask you not to work with other students, while other instructors encourage both things.
 - o If instructed to work on your own, do so. There's a reason why the instructor directed you this way. Don't rob yourself of the learning opportunity.

Are your sources legit?

- Not everything put out there is credible; a Google search can mislead you. Check with your instructor or librarian if your source isn't clearly from experts in the field.

Common mistakes:

- **Resubmitting a paper, you wrote for another class?** Unless you inform the instructor and they allow it, this is a violation. You are being asked to learn more, not just regurgitate something you already did for a new audience.
- **Paraphrasing from another source without citing?** If the basic ideas or structure of the writing are being used as a template, you need to cite, or it is a violation, even if it is not word for word.
- **Trying to hide that you got your information from some source so that it looks original?** A clear violation.

Remember, having done research is a good thing!! Show off and cite your sources!

If you make a mistake, there is a process for violations:

- Your instructor will file a report and set a penalty.
- You can accept, or appeal if you believe it is inaccurate or unfair.
- Full info on [academic integrity and the violation process](#)