

# Academic Integrity

## From Crime and Punishment to Conventions and Consequences



**BOBA SAMUELS**  
**THE WRITING CENTRE**

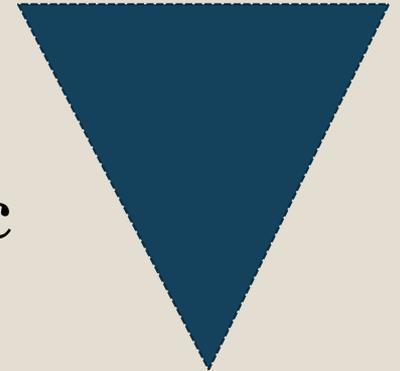
**SEPTEMBER 5, 2013**



# Agenda



- What is academic integrity and why think about it?  
For us as students – for us as TAs
- 3 issues:
  - intellectual property
  - academic integrity & academic misconduct
  - plagiarism
- How to develop and maintain academic integrity
- How to deal with academic misconduct



# Write...



One thing I'm not sure about in regard to academic integrity or plagiarism is

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# The Big Picture: Intellectual property



- What do we think about when we hear “intellectual property”?
  - Just a fancy way of saying “what I know”?
    - ✦ Mental aspect: “something intangible” not physical
    - ✦ Material aspect: “it can be specified” e.g. can be described, limited
    - ✦ Social aspect: “it’s mine not yours”
  - trying to untangle *what’s mine vs. what’s yours* in the realm of ideas

# Intellectual property



- But
  - ✦ How original are we? Don't we always already copy?
  - ✦ For what reasons might we copy?
    - Tomasello (2009) *Why we cooperate*. - mutualism

Distinctions are drawn: “sharing” vs. “copying” vs.  
“borrowing” vs. “using” vs. “stealing”

Are the lines between them always so clear?



**NEWS: June 13, 2011 National Post**

## **University of Alberta dean of medicine in midst of plagiarism scandal**

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/06/13/university-of-alberta-dean-of-medicine-in-midst-of-plagarism-scandal/>

Dear Class of 2011

I have heard from you following the graduation banquet when the theme (and much of the content) of my speech was similar to that of one given by Dr. Atul Gawande. *When I was researching for the speech, I came across text which inspired me and resonated with my experiences.*

The personal medical traumas which I detailed were wholly genuine and did indeed engender the sense of inadequacy I highlighted. *I also used a medical case of Dr. Gawande's to further make my point.* I offered a sincere written apology to Dr. Gawande and subsequently spoke with him; *he was flattered by my use of his text*, took no offence and readily accepted my apology....

Throughout my professional career and private life I have held myself to the highest ethical standards possible. *The talk was intended for a private audience, nevertheless, my failure to attribute the source of my inspiration is a matter of the utmost regret.*

And, while there is no excuse for the lapse in judgment which occurred on Friday evening I can only offer my sincere and heartfelt apology.

MAGLEANS. CA



## Margaret Wenté, remix artist?

by [Jesse Brown](#) on Monday, September 24, 2012 10:20am - [29 Comments](#)

[Rachel Mendleson](#) [Rachel.Mendleson@huffingtonpost.com](mailto:Rachel.Mendleson@huffingtonpost.com)

## Margaret Wenté Plagiarism Allegations: Globe And Mail Takes Unspecified 'Disiplinary Action' Against Columnist

Posted: 09/25/2012 11:16 am EDT Updated: 09/25/2012 1:44 pm EDT

### Columnist Margaret Wenté defends herself

MARGARET WENTE

The Globe and Mail

Published Tuesday, Sep. 25 2012, 2:00 AM EDT

Three years ago, I wrote a column about the controversy surrounding the introduction of genetically modified foods into Africa. It focused on the work of Robert Paarlberg, a U.S. academic who had written a book called *Starved for Science*. GM foods are a hot topic, and the column drew a lot of heat.

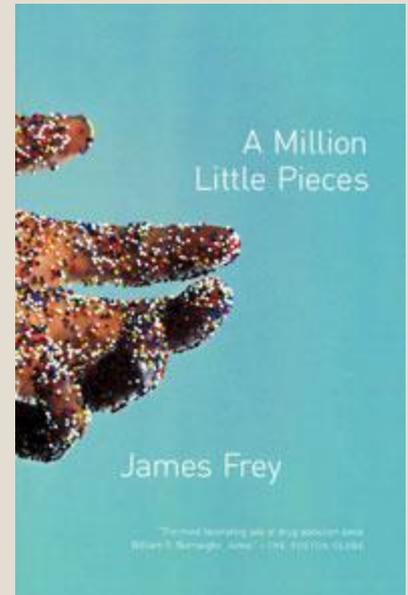
# Intellectual property



Property rights: individual vs. communal

- can be complicated, subtle distinctions

- Consider:
- 1) mash-ups 📣
  - 2) creative non-fiction
  - 3) documentary – mock-doc?
  - 4) advertising supplements



What can be at stake? Credibility.

# Implications of intellectual property on...



## Issues of ethics and morality

- **Business**

- design & manufacturing: innovation vs. imitation (knock-offs)
- personnel issues (CVs), confidentiality contracts
- professional services (lawyers, architects, mechanics): what is knowledge worth?

- **Medicine & Science**

- deception and informed consent
- Big Pharma: drug patents, generic drugs, drug company influence --- private vs. communal privileging

# Intellectual property



## **Example: Business**

Patents, trademarks, and copyright law **protect** intellectual property rights in the developed world

- ✦ Abuses estimated to deprive U.S. “owners” of \$2-60 B in the 1980s
- ✦ but, an overall net gain to the world economy of \$1 B (1986) (Helpman, 1993) .

Economic model focuses on proprietary (ownership) rights rather than instrumental (use) rights (Drahos, 1999).

So, intellectual property is important – and is protected.

# What about academia?



What constitutes intellectual property in universities and other research settings?

Is intellectual property protected?

Yes. Intellectual property is protected under the communal notion of academic integrity.

# Academic integrity in academic communities



What is academic integrity?

Communities of Practice: Lave & Wenger (1991)

- conventions of the community
- experience of “those who have been in the water of academe for a while” (Price, 2002, p.110)

Paradox: originality is valued;  
replication/generalizability is sought

How to make sense of the complexities?

# Academic Integrity in Academic Environments



- Apprenticeship of students into the norms of academia
  - e.g., Contracts – UWO School of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies
    - University calendars, policies
- APA guidelines:

“A critical part of the writing process is helping readers place your contribution in context by citing the researchers who influenced you...  
Citation of an article implies that you have personally read the cited work.” *(p. 169) See Chapters 1, 6, & 7.*

# Academic Misconduct



- WLU Undergraduate Academic calendar:

“Academic misconduct is an act by a student, or by students... which may result in a false evaluation of the students(s), or which represents an attempt to unfairly gain an academic advantage...

Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of academic misconduct.”

# Types of Academic Misconduct



- Plagiarism
  - Copying text, ideas
  
- Cheating
  - Distorting sources, fabricating data, concealing discrepancies  
from Booth, Colomb & Williams (2003)
  
- Impersonating another student
  - from Baetz & Nitsch (2010)

**Our focus is on PLAGIARISM**

# Steps to avoid misconduct



What should you do?

- ✦ Talk to your supervisor, professors, other TAs about the expectations in your field
- ✦ Consider your own authorship: in your term papers, your RA job, your honors thesis
- ✦ Become familiar with citation style in your field
- ✦ Act with integrity: the Golden Rule

# Plagiarism



What is plagiarism?

Why is it a problem?

- Not knowing what it is (unintentional)
- Potentially severe consequences regardless of intention

# Plagiarism



What is it?

“We keep running into a problem with plagiarism. It is not just difficult to define; it appears to be, as Rebecca Moore Howard suggests, ‘inherently indefinable’” (Price, 2002)

“Both as a student and later on in your career you will be constructing ‘information products’ from your own unique materials and materials from others.”

from Harris, R. (2001) p.113

# Quiz : What is plagiarism?



1. Using rearranged words from a source, with no citation.
2. Using rearranged words from a source, with citation.
3. Using words verbatim from a source, without quotation marks, with no citation.
4. Using words verbatim from a source, without quotation marks, with a citation.
5. Using words verbatim from a source, in quotation marks, with no citation, with the source listed in the bibliography.
6. Using words verbatim from a source, in quotation marks, with a citation, with the source listed in the bibliography.
7. Copying from his/her own previous published work, no citation.
8. Using themes or organizational style from the work of another.
9. Using the “style” of another.
10. Using a writing tutor who modifies the student’s writing.

# Plagiarism



What is being done about it?

**Detection:** Turnitin, Google search, prof expertise

**Deterrence:** Honor codes, WLU Academic calendar rules

**Punishment:** Academic record, failure, ostracism

**Avoidance:**

- 1) Learn how to credit others. Use established style guides to give proper authorship credit.  
-MLA, APA, Chicago, Turabian
- 2) Learn how to integrate sources.

# Avoidance of Plagiarism



## How to credit others

- 2 components: Citation and Reference
- Need BOTH
  - Citation = in-text referral to source
  - Reference = bibliographic listing of sources at end of work

# How to credit others



In: DJ McFly (2010) The melting pot: Part 1. Breathe in

- 1) Heart of Rock N' Roll – Huey Lewis & The News (0:00-0:25) 1984
- 2) DTP Intro – Ludacris – (0:00-0:05) 2005
- 3) All Night – Damian & Stephen Marley (0:05-0:25) 2005
- 4) Cleaning Out My Closet – Eminem (0:06-0:09) 2002
- 5) Resurrection Intro - Tupac Shakur (0:12-0:17) 2003
- 6) Photograph – Def Leppard (0:20) (2:48-3:18) 1983
- 7) Billie Jean – Michael Jackson (0:21-1:22) 1983
- 8) Sweet Child of Mine – Guns N' Roses (0:25-0:58) 1988
- 9) Technologic – Daft Punk (0:25-1:06) 2005
- 10) Gossip Folks – Missy Elliot ft. Ludacris (0:58-1:27) 2003
- 11) Fame – David Bowie (1:22-2:02) 1975
- 12) Love Lockdown – Kanye West (1:27-2:20) 2008
- 13) Forgot About Dre – Dr. Dre ft. Eminem (1:27-2:29) 2000
- 14) Baba O'Riley (Teenage Wasteland) – The Who (1:47-2:48) 1971
- 15) Give It To Me – Timbaland ft. Nelly Furtado & JT (2:04-2:20) 2007
- 16) Turf Drop – E40 ft. Lil' Jon (2:34-2:48) 2008
- 17) Wait (The Whisper Song) – The Ying Yang Twins (2:48-3:20) 2005
- 18) Gold Digger – Kanye West (2:55-3:12) 2005
- 19) The Boss – James Brown (3:16-3:37) 1973
- 20) Get Down – Nas (3:16-3:37) 2003

Partial list of sources

# Crediting sources in APA

## In text citation

- a) Smith (2002) argued that physical activity...
- b) Physical activity needs to be... (Smith, 2002)
- c) In 2002, the first attempts to “re-imagine physical activity as Participaction” were studied (Smith, 2002).

## Bibliographic reference

### References

- Smith, A. (2002).  
Participaction: Physical activity as fun. *J of Health Sciences* 21(2), 143-45.
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# Crediting as an author



## Co-authorship:

Garbati, J.F. & Samuels, B.M. \*(2002). Student coauthorship in peer-reviewed journals...

\* Authors listed in alphabetic order.

## Acknowledgement:

I would like to thank Dr. Farah Mohamed for her helpful advice on previous versions of this manuscript.

Thank you to David Smith for carrying out the data collection for this project.

# How to integrate sources



## Where/how are sources used?

In:

- Literature review “Previous research has shown...”
- Centrality claims “Three theories have dominated discussion of...”
- Topic generalizations “Increasing public interest in...”

from *Genre Analysis* (Swales, 1990), also see Graff & Birkenstein (2007)

# How to integrate sources



Skill development: Note-taking

Quoting

Paraphrasing

Summarizing

- Explicit skills that can be learned and practiced
- Next workshop will focus on developing and practicing these skills

# Integrating sources



Always **respond** to source material.

- the “conversation” of academic writing:  
*“They say/I say.” The moves that matter in persuasive writing*

e.g.	According to <i>X</i> , ...	<i>X</i> 's claim, however, omits...
	<i>X</i> insists that...	<i>X</i> 's data are confirmed by other researchers...
	On the one hand...	I agree that...

from Graff & Birkenstein (2007)

# Need more help?



## The Writing Centre

### Who are we?

- **17 paid student tutors:**
  - Successful students in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year
  - Recommended by professors
  - Receive initial and ongoing training
- **Writing Centre Consultant:** Jordana Garbati, PhD
- **Writing Centre Manager:** Boba Samuels, PhD (ABD)

# Visit the Writing Centre



- **Location:** DAWB 1-102
- **Appointments:** x 2220
- **Appt Hours:** Mon to Fri 10– 4
- **Drop-in Hours:** Mon - Wed 4 – 8 pm  
Thurs, Sun 1 – 4 pm
- **Website:** [www.wlu.ca/writing](http://www.wlu.ca/writing)

*We hope to see you soon!*

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# Examples: Paraphrase



Text: plagiarized = too close

Quiet management is about thoughtfulness rooted in experience. Words like wisdom, trust, dedication, and judgment apply. Leadership works because it is legitimate, meaning it is an integral part of the organization and so has the respect of everyone there. Tomorrow is appreciated because yesterday is honored. That makes today a pleasure. Indeed, the best management of all may well be silent. That way people can say, “We did it ourselves.”

This is what appears in a student’s essay.

Quiet management is about thoughtfulness and words like wisdom, trust, dedication, and judgment are related. The best management of all may be silent so people can say, “We did it ourselves.”

In Armstrong, M. (2004). Taken from Mitzberg, H. “Managing quietly.”

Thank you.



Comments? Questions?

The Writing Centre

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