Academic Honesty

Academic Honesty is essential in college. It leads to authentic learning and scholarly inquiry. It sets the stage for honest decision-making on the job and in other areas of life. It’s the right thing to do.

Penn State’s web site explains why plagiarism is wrong. It says that when you copy work that is not yours (without citing it), you hurt both yourself and others. You lower your self-esteem because deep down you know that you are doing something wrong. You deny yourself the chance to get feedback on your ideas because the ideas were not yours. You don’t get to practice proper citation techniques that might be needed in other classes or on a job. You also take someone else’s thoughts without giving credit for their work, and you show your classmates and instructor disrespect because they are not worth your honest efforts. In short, it shows everyone that you are a fraud. (“Why Plagiarism is Wrong.” Teaching and Learning with Technology. The Pennsylvania State University; 13 Feb 2009; 9 Jan 2011.)

In this class you will learn how to properly cite both word-for-word and paraphrased selections. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will be detected if it occurs. To avoid plagiarism, “cite it right”. Review the policy on plagiarism in the B.C. catalog, and follow the MLA (Modern Language Association) guidelines available in various locations: printed in your ACDV B50 Packet, posted on the BC Library web site, and printed on the handout from the BC Library. If you need help citing something properly, ask your Professor, a Librarian, or another faculty member at BC; we’re here to help you.

If any part of an assignment shows evidence of academic dishonesty, you will receive an “F” for the assignment. You may also be referred for further disciplinary action. Dishonesty includes work that is:

- plagiarized (copied or used without giving credit to the author),
- copied (as in copied from a classmate’s work),
- created with a classmate, unless directed to do so,
- written or substantially revised by a friend,
- purchased,
- re-used (such as submitting a project you wrote for another class),
- downloaded from the Internet,
- or otherwise dishonestly submitted or prepared.

For examples of plagiarism (and proper citation techniques to avoid plagiarism), see the web site by Indiana University’s Professor Frick: https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html or Google: “Plagiarism Examples” and select www.indiana.edu/~istd/example1paraphrasing.html or http://www.tlt.psu.edu/plagiarism/tutorial