

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when a student uses material written, devised or constructed by another without acknowledging the source.

Plagiarism is unethical because the student is presenting another person's work (their ideas, use of language and structure) as their own work. In Australian law, plagiarism is regarded as the theft of ideas or intellectual property and if done for profit can be challenged in court.

Teachers use a range of strategies to encourage students to avoid plagiarism:

- Ideas are to be expressed in the student's own words.
- When ideas or text from someone else is used it is expected to be cited in the work.
- A bibliography that lists all the works used as reference material in the student's writing must accompany the assessment.
- Checks of available reference materials are made to compare to student work when there is a concern plagiarism may occur.
- Asking students to explain suspected work in their own words.
- Having student submit drafts of work before the final piece is required.

If a student submits that can be proved to contain plagiarised material, the following actions will occur:

- The assessment mark withheld for that piece of required work.
- Redoing and resubmission of the work within set timelines