Academic Honesty & Avoiding Plagiarism
What is plagiarism?

Bow Valley College’s Academic Honesty policy defines plagiarism as:

“submitting or presenting work as if it were [your] own work done expressly for a particular course when, in fact, it is not” (2010, p. 1).

Plagiarism is a serious offense and may result in:

- A failing grade for an assignment, exam, or course
- Disciplinary probation with documentation of the offense
- Suspension or expulsion from your program of study or the college
Examples of plagiarism

- Buying an essay
- Paraphrasing poorly
- Using direct quotations too often
- Copying words without using quotation marks
- Allowing someone else to do your assignment
- Using information without acknowledging the creator
- Stealing someone’s work and submitting as your own
- Submitting all or parts of an assignment to more than one course
What is APA?

• APA = The American Psychological Association

• APA is a set of rules on how to:
  • format a paper
  • write in an academic setting
  • credit the sources you use

• APA Style is the chosen style guide for Bow Valley College, but others exist.
#1: Using sources of evidence

- In college, you are expected to use facts as evidence to support your statements.

- Facts may come from books, reliable webpages, journal articles, news articles, and other sources.

- Every time you use a source as evidence, you need to give credit.
#1 Using sources of evidence cont.

**OPINION**

Dogs make you happy!

**FACT**

Dogs have been shown to improve mental health by helping to establish a sense of self-worth and responsibility in their owners (Stuart, 2015).
#2: All sources need a citation

- Every time you used evidence from an outside source, you need a citation.

- Citations and references help you to:
  - Acknowledge and value the original ideas of others
  - Support your statements with strong evidence
  - Connect your reader(s) with the sources you’ve used
  - Avoid plagiarism
#2: All sources need a citation cont.

• Citations include the source’s author name(s) and year:

**PARENTHEtical**

Dogs have been shown to improve mental health by helping to establish a sense of self-worth and responsibility in their owners (Stuart, 2015).

**narrative**

According to Stuart (2015), dogs have been shown to improve mental health by helping to establish a sense of self-worth and responsibility in their owners.
The crime rate increased steadily between 1962-1991, and has "since declined significantly, reaching its lowest point in 2013 since 1969" (Statistics Canada, 2015, para. 7). Yet findings suggest that the public typically inflates current crime rates. According to Grant et al. (2014), the public tends to give estimates well above reported trends and numbers.

References (last page)


#4: Copied words need quotation marks and location info

- Use short (less than 40 words) quotations strategically.
- Exact quotes must be surrounded by quotation marks.
- Quotations needs to be ‘set up’ with a signal phrase:

  ▶️ According to Smith, “...”

  ▶️ As argued by Abbas, “...”

  ▶️ Chang notes that “...”
College can be a very stressful time for students. Many are away from the home environment for the first time and may experience homesickness or have difficulty functioning while away from friends and family.

Many first-year students “experience homesickness or have difficulty functioning when away from friends and family” (Adams, 2017, p. 2).
Alzheimer’s disease (AD) is “an incurable, progressive dementia characterized by cognitive deficits in language, speech, memory, and the ability to perform motor skills” (Schub, 2016, p. 2). “It causes significant impairment in social and occupational functioning that presents serious difficulties to the patient and family members” (Schub, 2016, p. 1). Schub (2016) states that it “is the most common cause of dementia. Currently, an estimate 36 million persons worldwide...have AD. There is no definitive dialogistic imaging or laboratory tests for AD” (pp. 1-2).
#6: Paraphrased information must be cited

• Paraphrasing is when you put someone’s words into your own.

• When you paraphrase, you don’t need quotation marks or location information.

• Paraphrased information still needs to be cited!
#7: Change sentence structure and words when you paraphrase

- Paraphrasing is more than swapping words with synonyms.
- Sentence structure must be your own.
- Can you close your book and describe the concept to the person sitting next to you? This is paraphrasing!
College can be a very stressful time for students. Many are away from the home environment for the first time and may experience homesickness or have difficulty functioning while away from friends and family.

Many first-year students initially experience stress and homesickness because college is their first experience living away from home (Adams, 2017).
#8: Do not copy the work of other students

#9: Do not share your own work (unless it is group work)

#10: Do not reuse your own work