

Legal Consequences of Plagiarism in Academic Writing

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Abstract

Problems with Academic Writing Students, researchers, faculty, and LIS professionals alike need to have open conversations about plagiarism. To raise greater awareness about academic misconduct and how to create a successful academic paper without plagiarizing, the issue has been actively debated in academic circles. Evidence-based reasoning, exact word choice, logical arrangement, and an impersonal tone are the hallmarks of academic writing. It is a common means of communication in academic settings across all fields of study. While Plagiarism is the representation of another person's words or ideas as one's own, with or without permission, and without giving proper credit to the original creator. It is either scientific malpractice or academic theft.

The paper will focus on the research ethics and integrity necessary to draft and publish an article in a high-quality national or international publication. The primary focus is on educating the intended audience about plagiarism, the several forms it may take, and the means by which it can be detected in submitted articles before they are published. This study will examine the causes of academic dishonesty and plagiarism committed by students and researchers. In this article, we'll examine how India is handling the problem of plagiarism in light of the availability of UGC recommendations to that end. Open source tools for detecting plagiarism in submissions will also be compared to globally recognized standards for research writing. All students, researchers, faculty, etc. will benefit greatly from this work, which emphasizes the need of being forthright in academic writing.

Keywords : Plagiarism, IPR, Citation, Academic writing, Fair use, Turnitin, CC licenses.

Introduction

Problems with Academic Writing Students, faculty, writers, librarians, and LIS professionals all need to have open conversations about plagiarism. To raise greater awareness about academic misconduct and how to create an excellent publication without plagiarizing, the subject has been actively debated in the academic community. Evidence-based reasoning, exact word choice, logical arrangement, and an impartial tone are the hallmarks of academic writing. Academic writing is used across all academic disciplines by students, faculty, and researchers to share knowledge, argue a point, and advance the debate. While Plagiarism occurs when someone uses another person's words or ideas without giving proper credit to the original author. This definition encompasses both previously published works and those that have yet to see print or electronic publication. Plagiarism is referred to as research misconduct or academic theft.

Types of Plagiarism : The Latin word "plagiare," meaning "to steal," is the source of our modern English term "plagiarism." Plagiarism is defined as the unacknowledged use of another person's words, ideas, thoughts, or phrases. In other words, we need to provide due credit to the original inventor if we use the work of others in our study. The academic community views plagiarism as dishonest and immoral, and it goes by many names. Research misconduct is a severe offense that carries fines, suspension, and legal consequences according to the legislation in a country or nation, thus it's important to always give credit where credit is due. It's not the same in every nation.

Plagiarism is defined as "the appropriation of another writer's ideas or phrases without providing fair credit," as stated by Oxford College, a division of Emory College in Georgia.

Plagiarism is defined by Stanford University as "the use, without offering reasonable and appropriate praise to the author or the source, of a different individual's original work, whether such work is composed of code, procedures, ideas, words, research, plans, writing, or other form."

Plagiarize means (as defined by Merriam-Webster's Internet Dictionary)

- i. The act of claiming someone else's work as one's own.
- ii. Using (another's work) without giving proper credit is plagiarism.
- iii. Steal the work of a writer.
- iv. To pass off a modified version of an existing concept or item as novel and unique

We've come to realize the value of citations and acknowledgements, but there's still work to be done to raise consciousness about academic misconduct among India's researchers and educate them on the UGC's rules and regulations concerning academic theft and literary piracy.

Kinds of Plagiarism are as fellows

1. Direct Plagiarism, sometimes called Verbatim Plagiarism, occurs when a researcher plagiarizes another person's work word for word without giving proper credit to the original author.
2. More focus should be paid to the most prevalent kind of plagiarism, which is paraphrasing. Plagiarism of this sort occurs when text is taken from another source and slightly altered (in terms of grammar or sentence structure) while retaining the original author's meaning. This is also a kind of academic dishonesty, thus we need to get the word out as much as possible.

3. Self-Plagiarism occurs when an author plagiarizes his or her own work without giving proper credit to his or her earlier publications. This is known as auto- or self-plagiarism. Using his or her own work without giving proper credit when referencing it in subsequent research or academic papers is considered plagiarism. Many high-quality academic journals both nationally and internationally conduct thorough checks for plagiarism before publishing any articles. This is good for the honesty and transparency of the study.
4. Mosaic Plagiarism, also known as Patch Writing, is a kind of plagiarism that is difficult to spot since the plagiarist does not use quote marks or provide proper credit when using the words or ideas of another person. It's a kind of academic misconduct with severe repercussions.
5. In order for bringing more equitable and ethical writings that benefit society, it is important to avoid accidental copying, which happens when an author forgets or neglects to cite the sources or intentionally paraphrases an original source by using similar phrases or sentences with no giving proper due.
6. Data fabrication involves making up information or results from a study that were never collected or seen in the wild. No real surveying is done, yet data is still generated and analyzed.

Data fabrication refers to the practice of making up numbers or details without conducting an actual study. Data falsification, on the other hand, refers to the practice of changing or modifying data or information such that it no longer accurately reflects reality. Data fabrication occurs when legitimate survey respondents' responses are changed or altered in any way. Data falsification and data fabrication are both examples of academic misconduct, sometimes known as plagiarism.

When someone uses a copyrighted work for noncommercial or educational reasons like evaluating, commenting, suggesting, etc., they are engaging in fair use. While this is not an issue with copyrights, passing off a copy of someone else's work as your own is a crime in any jurisdiction you happen to be in.

In the context of academia, "common knowledge" refers to material that has been disseminated widely and is thus considered to be a universal truth or notion and hence does not need citation. Fair use and common knowledge are widely understood to be the two main exceptions to the rule of plagiarism.

Plagiarism Occurred Because: The word "plagiarism" has a substantial cultural impact, yet its true importance remains elusive. There is no universal agreement on the meaning of plagiarism, and the term itself differs depending on the society in question. For instance, it seems that plagiarizing a single phrase or a brief section of text is often acceptable practice so long as the original source is credited (macdonald and carroll, 2006). Textual production relies heavily on other texts for the purpose of constructing ideas, arguments, and justifications. With the addition of online information, intertextuality has grown to enormous dimensions, with limiting factors that are

difficult to pin down. Plagiarism may be considered as a reaction against the Western cultural paradigm now in place (pennycook, 1996). This model places a premium on uniqueness and originality while dismissing works that have been previously created by others.

Due to gaps in their education, many students are unfamiliar with the concept of plagiarism and its repercussions. Students from the Institute of Chemistry at So Carlos (University of So Paulo) were polled and 100% claimed they had never received a lecture, lesson, or explanation on plagiarism and its implications throughout their education. Throughout their education, students are expected to consistently and repeatedly produce original writing for a variety of purposes, including but not limited to: monographs, dissertations, doctoral theses, conference presentations, journal articles, and other scholarly works. Students are more likely to plagiarize, whether they want to or not, since they lack a firm grasp of the defining characteristics of plagiarism. As a result, universities and faculty/researchers must provide instruction on the topic of plagiarism.

Since the current educational system expects students to regurgitate previously taught material, just like their teachers do, it's important to develop curricula that will better equip students to deal with unexpected challenges when they arise (pennycook, 1996). The educational techniques and training of persons who must construct their own texts are also seen by other writers as significant complete and holistic activities for the evaluation of plagiarism concerns (macdonald and carroll, 2006). This requires pupils to develop strong textual writing abilities, which is currently underutilized in Brazilian classrooms.

The consequences of the plagiarizing act:

Both the how and the why of avoiding plagiarism should be taught to the learner (MacDonald & Carroll, 2006). The educator, whether a professor, researcher, or member of an institution's technical support staff, must also be ready, aware, and persuaded of the dangers we face when plagiarizing.

Plagiarism often results in repercussions along the lines of warnings and other types of disciplinary action, up to and including legal action. Despite the lack of agreement on the specifics of imposing such punishments, everyone agrees that they should be done. Even if just a little amount of plagiarism is committed, it is still considered a serious ethical violation. The term has a lot of negative connotation due to the widespread consensus that it is inappropriate. Especially in the case of academic plagiarism. The blog i aren't fond of plagiarism, by (bottmann, 2011) shows that plagiarism involving books released by multiple publishers is common, although it is seldom discussed or denied in the media or by society at large.

The consequences for academics who plagiarize their work range from being warned to having their work pulled temporarily or permanently from circulation. In extreme situations, such actions may lead to the complete destruction of a professional's career. However, the major effect of copying seems to be the perpetrator's own profound irritation and demoralization (wagner, 2011).

According to Pennycook (1996), the Western modern era has established that stealing the work of original, hard-working writers is a violation of their right to privacy and property. Pennycook (1996), referencing Kolich, says of plagiarism, "[...] "is a very emotive matter, and the problem of how to deal with it is complicated by moral perplexity, dread, and overall hatred." The moral indignation and exarcebated manner that plagiarists are pursued should not be justified by the fact that, as Pennycook (1996) argues, the concept of individualism is quite well established.

Open Source Softwares, Tools and Techniques for facilitating Academic writings : Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are a serious problem in almost all academic institutions, including colleges, high schools, research labs, educational organizations, and government agencies. Plagiarism, whether deliberate or accidental, is on the rise in today's digital classrooms because students aren't being adequately warned about the repercussions of their actions. The problems associated with the widespread use of copied material in academic papers need further attention. The following are a few of the most well-known tools and methods used to combat the pervasive problem of plagiarism, which may or may not need a paid subscription:

Software for detection of Plagiarism:

- i. Turnitin was developed by i-paradigms. It's an online resource. Turnitin, a subsidiary of iParadigms, is an American online commercial plagiarism detection service.
- ii. Urkund is yet another online service that uses a server to identify plagiarism and provides a fully automated and integrated service. The submission of papers and the viewing of results both take place using regular email channels. This software also promises to search all of the information on the internet with an emphasis on scholarly materials.
- iii. Copycatch is a client-side application for comparing document repositories on a local machine. It comes in both "gold" and "campus" editions, allowing users to easily compare a wide range of local data sources. It also has a web-based version that uses the Google API to make plagiarism detection possible anywhere online.
- iv. A modification is being made to the open-source application Wcopyfind, which uses the Google API to recognize words or phrases of a certain length inside a local repository of documents.
- v. Client-side Eve2 (essay validation engine) does its own internet search to detect potentially copied information in a manuscript.
- vi. Smooth Plagiarism Detection System (Gpsp): This program operates on a local level and takes a different approach to identification of plagiarism than others previously described. Detection of gpsps relies on similarities in writing patterns and formats. A suspected submission's author is put through a "fill in the blanks" test.

- vii. Software similarity index, or Moss: In its own words, Moss is an online service that "accepts batches of documents and produces a collection of html pages demonstrating where substantial chunks a pair of texts are quite similar." The service is tailored to finding instances of plagiarism in computer programs written in C, C++, Java, Pascal, Ada, ML, Lisp, or Scheme. Jplag is another web-based solution for finding code duplications in large projects. Users provide the files they want to compare, and the system generates a report detailing any similarities it finds. Jplag performs analysis that takes into account the syntax and structure of the programming language being used.
- viii. Plagiarism-finder is a program that checks a work against online resources and produces html reports that call attention to similar portions and provide links to the original materials. It's compatible with Windows 2000 and XP computers and reads a wide variety of file types, including PDF, Word, HTML, Text, and Rich Text Formats (RTF).
- ix. I-thenticate: Turnitin's Ithenticate is a popular software program for detecting instances of plagiarism. The program evaluates a file by contrasting it with all of the online document repositories. Additionally, it searches for similarities between the input material and many electronic books and private databases of published works (such as ABI /inform, periodical abstracts, and business dateline) to provide originality reports. To gauge the scope of the problem, the originality reports detail the percentages of plagiarized content.
- x. Plagiarismdetect is a web-based tool that may be used without cost. Registration requires users to provide personal information such names and email addresses. After signing up, you may input text into the supplied text box or upload a file to be analyzed. The user receives a report detailing the sources from which data was lifted, along with percentage breakdowns for how much data was lifted from each source.
- xi. The online textual plagiarism detector Plagscan. Many educational institutions make use of Plagscan, which offers many account tiers with varying levels of access and functionality. Plagscan uses sophisticated algorithms informed by current linguistic research to verify and analyze submitted documents for instances of plagiarism. Comparison with the plagscan database to millions of online documents, using a signature retrieved from the document's architecture. As a result, plagscan is able to accurately quantify the quantity of copied information by detecting both straight copy and paste and wordswitching forms of plagiarism.
- xii. Checkforplagiarism.net: Checking for plagiarism.net was created by a group of experienced academics with the goal of reducing the prevalence of plagiarism online and preventing its occurrence altogether. Checkforplagiarism.net employs many strategies, including document fingerprinting and source analysis, to detect and prevent plagiarism.

Measures Prevent academic dishonesty as follows: By adhering to these guidelines, we may make significant progress toward solving the problems of plagiarism and fostering a culture of greater research ethics and integrity in the academic community.

Research misconduct may be avoided if authors are truthful in their writings and projects.

By having a firm grasp on what constitutes plagiarism and the repercussions of such actions.

By having a firm grasp of concepts related to intellectual property, plagiarism, copyrights, etc. should be kept in mind before releasing any works.

When proper credit is given. Recognize and honor the origin of the data.

When utilizing the work of another person, it is essential to properly credit them.

Plagiarism is avoided with the use of reference management software.

Using tools like Grammarly, Turnitin, iTheorema, and others. When submitting a work to a reputable international journal for publication.

Be familiar with the available means.

Open access publishing increases both readership and the likelihood of citation.

Make sure everyone knows what needs citations and what doesn't.

Articles submitted to journals or publishers must comply with their specific guidelines in terms of originality, format, and quality.

Conclusion

Plagiarism is a multifaceted term that is intricately tied to how people's identities are constructed culturally (pennycook, 1996). It is important to consider cultural alternatives while trying to make sense of the idea of plagiarism. Some authors argue that students' cultural diversity in the classroom is crucial for them to learn how to set up the universe of understanding in their studies and jobs (macdonald & carroll, 2006), while others argue that this line of thinking is flawed because it assumes students must embrace a normative view of the known academic standards and the way in which this system operates. This, in turn, disregards the many complexities that come into play throughout the writing process. Therefore, the manner that plagiarism is often discussed in the classroom would be pedagogically dubious and intellectually pompous (pennycook, 1996). Plagiarism, although often used in the academic world, is by no means limited to this setting. Plagiarism by both students and professors has been found in the high school setting, as well as in government and public organizations. Many businesses that advertise themselves as "writing

services" include substantial amounts of plagiarism into the products they provide to clients (maurer et al., 2006) when contracted to create papers, monographs, theses, and dissertations, among others.

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