

## Plagiarism

Plagiarism is claiming another's words, exact writing structures, images, or ideas as your own. Instances of plagiarism or any kind of cheating are not tolerated at JCCC and will result in the student being failed for the course and possibly suspended or dismissed from the college.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

### Recognizing plagiarism in student papers

1. Writing style, language, vocabulary, tone, grammar, etc. is above or below what the student usually produces. It doesn't sound like the student.
2. Sections or sentences do not relate to the overall content of the paper. Students may "personalize" a paper by adding a paragraph that ties the paper to the class assignment.
3. Look for strange text at the top or bottom of printed pages.
4. Look for gray letters in the text, often an indication that the page was downloaded from the web, since color letters on a screen show up gray in a printout.
5. Essays are printed out from the student's web browser.
6. Web addresses left at the top or bottom of the page. Many free essays have a tag line at the end of the essay that students often miss.
7. Strange or poor layout. Papers that have been downloaded and re-printed often have page numbers, headings, or spacing that just don't look right.
8. References to graphs, charts, or accompanying material that isn't there.
9. References to professors, classes or class numbers that are not taught at Johnson County Community College.
10. Citations are to materials not owned by JCCC's Library or are all from another country.
11. Web sites listed in citations are inactive.
12. All citations are to materials that are older than five years.
13. References are made to historical persons or events in the current sense.
14. Students cannot identify citations or provide copies of the cited material.
15. Students cannot summarize the main points of the paper or answer questions about specific sections of the paper.
16. When provided with a page from their paper that has words or passages removed, students cannot fill in the blanks with the missing words or with reasonable synonyms.

### Sources

Peggy Bates/Margaret Fain [Teaching Effectiveness Seminar Homepage](#) March 5, 1999 (revised January 30, 2002) and <http://www.coastal.edu/library/plagiarz.htm>