



Plagiarism:

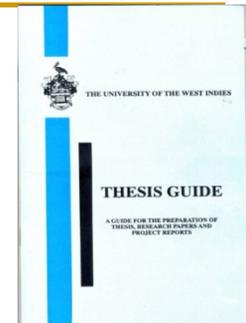
How to avoid it through proper

Policy on Graduate Student
Plagiarism

School for Graduate Studies and
Research*

Mar 2010

referencing



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Thesis Guide: A Guide for the Preparation of Thesis and Research Papers

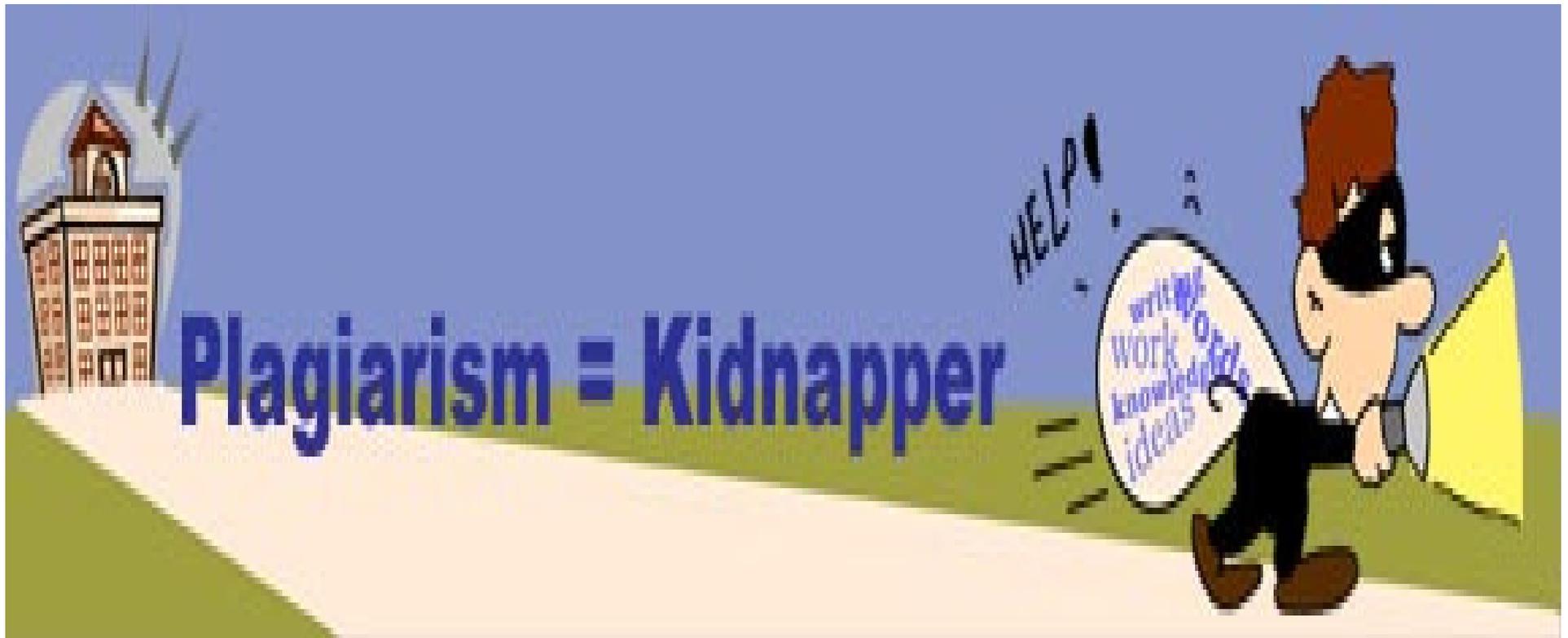
- “A fundamental rule of good scholarship is that the basic research be reliable and correct and that all sources be acknowledged.”
(11)
-

Thinking it through



- Do you have a clear definition of plagiarism?
 - Do you understand *why* plagiarism is unacceptable?
 - Do you know that the UWI has a policy on plagiarism?
 - Do you understand the *benefits* of proper citation and of challenging yourself to engage with sources?
 - Do you know the recommended style manual for your department?
-

‘Kidnapping’ intellectual property



<http://www2.upei.ca/library/plagiarism/tutorial/introduction.php>

*Plagiarism comes from a Latin verb “**plagiarius**” which means “to kidnap.” It therefore means that if someone plagiarizes, whether **intentionally** or **unintentionally**, he or she is kidnapping and stealing the work of someone else.*

Plagiarism - University of the West Indies

“Plagiarism is defined as the unacknowledged use of the words, ideas or creations of another. The principal categories of unacknowledged use are *unacknowledged quotation*, which is failure to credit quotations of another person’s spoken or written words; and *unattributed borrowing*, which is failure to credit another person’s ideas, opinions, theories, graphs or diagrams. Unattributed borrowing also includes the failure to credit another person’s work when paraphrasing from that work.”

Plagiarism - University of the West Indies

“Cosmetic paraphrasing is also plagiarism. This can occur when an acknowledgement is made but the words are so close to the original that what is deemed to have been paraphrased is, in fact, a modified quote. A more technical form of plagiarism is *wrongly attributed borrowing*, where one does not acknowledge the work from which one obtained an idea, but quotes, instead, from the original source, which may well convey a broader research effort than what actually took place.”

Plagiarism - University of the West Indies

“There is a related issue of collusion. Collusion is the collaboration between two or more students in the preparation, writing or production of a course assignment, or part thereof, under circumstances where the students knew or had reason to know that the assignment, or part thereof, was intended to be the product of each student’s individual effort. Although there is a distinction between plagiarism and collusion, students who collude by agreeing to present as their own work the work of others will also be subject to this plagiarism policy, to the extent that the collusion results in a document presented for assessment.”

School for Graduate Studies and Research. [Draft] Policy on Graduate Student Plagiarism. May 2010.

Plagiarism is not tolerated at UWI

- **FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**
 - Weekend Degree Programmes Student Handbook 2010/11
 - UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/2010. “Presenting and documenting material in Course Essays”- Dr. L. Stirton
- Open Campus-Quality Assurance Unit
- OBUS Documents. Undergraduate Student Anti-Plagiarism Policy
- School for Graduate Studies and Research - Information Portal

http://www.uwi.edu/grip/didyouknow.aspx

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ROBINSON, Karlene P - Outlo... UWI GRIP

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

School for Graduate Studies and Research

Cave Hill : Mona : St. Augustine : Open Campus

Graduate Studies and Research Information Portal **Home** Prospective Students Taught Masters Student MPhil/PhD Student

DID YOU KNOW?

Even when a source is cited, if the words of the author are presented verbatim, or nearly so, in a way that would lead the reader to conclude that these are the creative expressions of the writer, and not of the original author, this comprises plagiarism.

Upon demonstration that a researcher has misappropriated another person's work and represented it as his or her own, the researcher may present evidence to rebut the allegation of plagiarism. Procedures for dealing with the allegation of plagiarism by graduate students are provided in the University of the West Indies Policy on Graduate Student Plagiarism.

7. HOW TO CHECK FOR PLAGIARISM?

You can check for plagiarism on your own for your course paper/research project/thesis/dissertation. The University uses an application called [Turnitin](#).

A class has been designed for you to serve yourself. By making a submission to the class an originality report is generated in minutes and information is given to you on the status of your work.

Now, the University is giving you this opportunity to ensure all is well with your research paper/project/thesis/dissertation as we have a zero-tolerance for students who use the work of others without using the appropriate and prescribed ways of referencing. Please email us at avaloi.forbes02@uwimona.edu.jm for the credentials to access this site.

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Examples

- Cutting and pasting blocks of information from the Internet to create a patchwork paper
 - Submitting another person's paper as one's own
 - Purchasing/downloading a paper or copying an article and submitting it as one's own
 - Using images/data without acknowledgement
 - Using information gained from an interview (in person, by e-mail or telephone) without stating the source
 - “In an assignment where there was collaborative preparatory work, submitting substantially the same final version of any material as another student.”
<http://www.international.mq.edu.au/oneworld/currentstudents/glossary>
 - Resubmitting a paper written for one course in another course without permission
 - Quoting without quotation marks and/or citation
 - Summarizing another person's work/findings without citing the source
 - Re-using too many of the words and phrases from the original source; substituting synonyms but copying sentence structure/order of argument
-

Is this plagiarism?

You find on the web



*Image taken from
<http://www.reggaemovement.com/reggaeartists/images/ivibes/I-Vibes%20Crew.jpg>*

Yes, You must state the source of images and other media as well as text.

You use

Class Assignment

The significance of Reggae Music to world music is as yet unrecognized and

Discuss

Name: Joe Brown

ID: 2044444444

Course: MU10A

Is this plagiarism?

You read:-

Some students create a paper by taking a paragraph here and a paragraph there and pasting them all together into an essay. These “assembly-kit” papers are often betrayed by wide variations in tone, diction and style.

Yes! Even though you have cited the author, it appears as though only the last sentence is attributed to him. You need to make it clear that the first sentence is also the author’s idea.

You write:-

Some students write their essays by taking different paragraphs from various books and assembling them in their papers. “These ‘assembly-kit’ papers are often betrayed by wide variations in tone, diction and style.” (Harris, 16)

In-Text Citation

“Mark the Boundaries”

1. Introduction/lead-in
2. summary/quotation
3. notation

Example:

Fletcher also noted that “distance learning programs are offered by two-thirds of colleges and universities, and the percentage of institutions offering accredited degrees through distance learning has increased to about 55%” (p. 2).

Fletcher, G. (2004). The Future of e-learning. *THE Journal*, 32(2), 2–3. Retrieved July 23, 2008, from <http://www.thejournal.com/articles/16899>

In-Text Citation : How to Avoid Plagiarism

■ Quote and cite

“**Quotations** must be identical to the original, using a narrow segment of the source. They must match the source document word for word and must be attributed to the original author.”

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/1/>

■ Paraphrase and cite

“**Paraphrasing** is re-writing another writer’s words or ideas in your own words without altering the meaning. The paraphrase is about the same length as the original since the purpose is to rephrase without leaving out anything, and not to shorten”.

http://www.word-mart.com/html/paraphrasing_versus_summarizin.html

■ Summarize and cite

“**Summarizing**, on the other hand, is putting down the main ideas of someone else’s work in your own words. A summary is always shorter than the original since the idea is to include only the main points of the original work and to leave out the irrelevant. A summary is usually about one-third the size of the original”.

http://www.word-mart.com/html/paraphrasing_versus_summarizin.html

Citing sources

You do not have to cite:

- Information that is common knowledge; that is, common sense observations or generally accepted facts.
 - Your own conclusions, observations or thoughts on a subject.
-

TEST YOURSELF

SOURCE: State University of New York at Stony Brook *Writing Assignment Sourcebook*
<http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/Class/sourcebk/frost3sumframe.html>

EXERCISE 1: From Michael Ventura's "The Tools of an Animal":

Different tools shape words differently, the way different tools build furniture and shoes differently.... Pen and paper are slow and messy, of course. Modernity loves speed and claims to hate mess. But speed is only a value when it's useful, and it isn't always useful. Slowness can be useful too. Using an instrument that doesn't let you go too fast can make you pause where you might not have, and a pause at the right time can change or even save your life, not to mention your work.

From a student's essay:

Most writers have come to depend on computers, and they can't imagine writing a paper without one. But, in an essay titled "The Tools of an Animal," Michael Ventura reminds us that sometimes computers aren't the right tool for a writer's task, sometimes using an instrument that doesn't let you go too fast can make you pause at a crucial point--and this pause may save your work from failure (5).

Works Cited

Ventura, Michael. "The Tools of an Animal." *The Independent Weekly* 20 April 1994: 5.

.....
Explain why there is or is not plagiarism in the passage from the student's essay.

There is plagiarism in the passage because the student borrows Ventura's exact words without using quotation marks.

EXERCISE 2: From William Zinsser's *On Writing Well*:

Good writing has an aliveness that keeps the reader reading from one paragraph to the next, and it's not a question of gimmicks to "personalize" the author. It's a question of using the English language in a way that will achieve the greatest strength and the least clutter.

From a student's essay:

An important quality of good writing is "aliveness" (Zinsser 6). To achieve aliveness, a writer must avoid gimmicks and instead use the English language to achieve great strength and a minimal amount of clutter.

Works Cited

Zinsser, William. *On Writing Well. An Informal Guide to Writing Nonfiction*. 3rd. ed. New York: Harper, 1985.

.....
Explain why there is or is not plagiarism in the passage from the student's essay.

There is plagiarism because the student's second sentence paraphrases from Zinsser without proper documentation. The student's paraphrase also borrows too closely from the original.

EXERCISE 3: From James L. Kinneavy, William McCleary, and Neil Nakadate's *Writing in the Liberal Arts Tradition*:

The goal of learning to write "in the liberal arts tradition" is the well-rounded writer-- a person with training and experience in a range of writing tasks, from term papers to poems and stories.

From a student's essay:

The authors of *Writing in the Liberal Arts Tradition* believe that "the goal of learning to write 'in the liberal arts tradition' is the well-rounded writer". A well-rounded writer, they explain, is one with training and practice in a variety of writing tasks (xiii).

Works Cited

Kinneavy, James L., William J. McCleary, and Neil Nakadate. *Writing in the Liberal Arts Tradition: A Rhetoric with Readings*. New York: Harper, 1985.

.....

Explain why there is or is not plagiarism in the passage from the student's essay.

There is no plagiarism in this passage. The student's paraphrase in the second sentence is appropriately attributed and referenced.

EXERCISE 4: From Edward Abbey's "Come on In":

The canyon country of southern Utah and northern Arizona is something special. Something else. Something strange, marvelous, full of wonders. So far as I know there is no other region on earth much like it, or even remotely like it. Nowhere else have we had this lucky combination of vast sedimentary rock formations exposed to a desert climate, of a great plateau carved by major rivers--the Green, the San Juan, the Colorado--into such a wonderland of form and color.

From a student's essay:

In a short essay titled "Come on In," Edward Abbey introduces his readers to the wonders of the canyon country in the American Southwest. *This area has a fortunate combination of extensive sedimentary rocks exposed to a desert environment and a great plateau shaped by important rivers.* For Abbey, it is "a wonderland of form and color" (3).

Works Cited

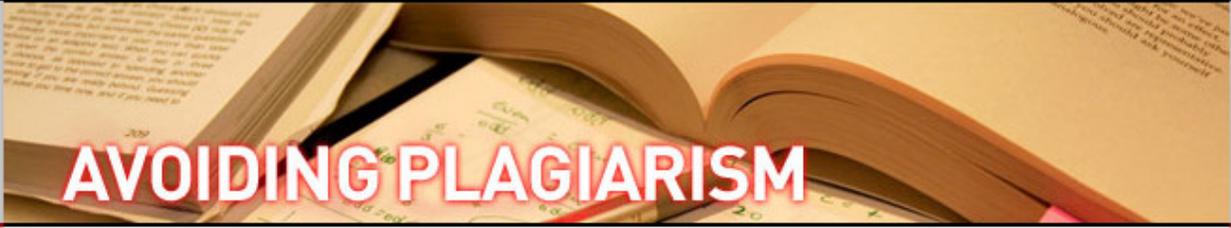
Abbey, Edward. "Come on In." *Plateau* 49.1 (1976): 3-5.

.....

Explain why there is or is not plagiarism in the passage from the student's essay.

There is plagiarism because the student's second sentence borrows from the source but does not acknowledge the borrowing with documentation or attribution. The student's paraphrase in this sentence is also too close to the original. She should use her own sentence structure.

Test Yourself



AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

PLAGIARISM QUIZ

[Home](#)

[What is plagiarism?](#)

[Using what you read](#)

[Referencing](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Tutorials](#)

[Plagiarism Quiz](#)

Plagiarism Quiz

The Plagiarism Quiz consists of 20 questions. These questions enable you to review your understanding of how you can avoid plagiarism in your academic writing.

To start the Plagiarism Quiz, click [here](#).

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

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Why do students plagiarize?

- **Insecurity**

“excessive reliance on textbooks and other sources”

structuring essays “slavishly using the same framework and argument-structure set out in the primary reading resource”

“essays which were boringly similar, and which demonstrated little evidence that the student had actually assimilated the material let alone had moved on to the higher levels of analysis.”

Ryan, Cillian. “Case Study: How to Get Better Essays While Reducing Your Work and Plagiarism.” **The Higher Education Academy, Economics Network**. Oct. 2001. 21 Oct. 2008 <http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/showcase/ryan_essays.htm>.

Why do students plagiarize?

■ Ignorance

“The notion of plagiarism is regarded as extremely unclear—some students have a fear that they might well plagiarise unwittingly in writing what they genuinely take to be their own ideas...” (187)

Ashworth, Peter, and Philip Bannister. “Guilty in Whose Eyes? University Students' Perceptions of Cheating and Plagiarism in Academic Work and Assessment.” **Studies in Higher Education** 22.2 (June 1997). Academic Search Premier. EBSCO. U. of the West Indies (Mona) Lib. 29 Oct. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com>>.

Students' dilemma

“... [I]n the same way that Western literary practices center around the notion of the individual creator and yet constantly echo the lines of others, academic work also stresses the individual, creative thinker, and writer and yet constantly emphasises a fixed canon of disciplinary knowledge. This problem is most obvious for undergraduate students ...” (276)

Pennycook, Alastair . “Borrowing Others’ Words: Text, Ownership, Memory and Plagiarism.” **Negotiating Academic Literacies: Teaching and Learning across Languages and Cultures**. Eds. Vivian Zamel, Ruth Spack.. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum, 1998. 18 Aug. 2008 < <http://books.google.com>>.

Why do students plagiarize?

- **Poor note-taking**

It is important to take accurate notes and indicate sources by writing down the bibliographic elements at the initial stages

- **Stress**

- **Laziness/Poor work ethic**

- **Lack of penalties**

Detecting plagiarism

- ❑ **Obvious Clues** : Lack of consistency - copy and paste papers, lack of seamlessness in flow and logic of argument (Harris, Ch. 4)
- ❑ **Subtle Clues**: Variation in style and diction; writing style may change from section to section, may be too sophisticated for the writer or lack currency (Harris, Ch. 4)
- ❑ **Online Resources**: Use several search engines for broad coverage as well as the following websites
 - Essaycrawler <http://www.essaycrawler.com>
 - Essayfinder <http://www.essayfinder.com>
 - Findsame <http://www.findsame.com>
 - Duplichecker <http://www.duplichecker.com> – free software that allows you to enter text in a large search box

Turnitin: software used at UWI - has a database of papers

Thesis Guide: A Guide for the Preparation of Thesis and Research Papers

“All references, whether they be footnotes, endnotes or bibliography, must conform to certain stylistic requirements. Although the sciences and the humanities differ in matters of form, the fundamental principles that govern referencing procedures are the same”. (*Thesis Guide* 11)

Citations for each format (books, journal/newspaper articles, websites, etc.) should be consistent.

Bibliography/References/Works Cited/

- contains all the works you cite in your paper
- comes at the end of your paper
- lists all sources cited in alphabetical or numerical sequence
- includes information from the work itself, NOT from the catalogue
- uses the style requested by your tutors. Be consistent.

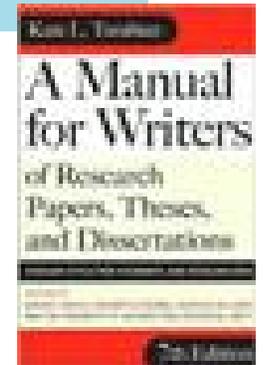
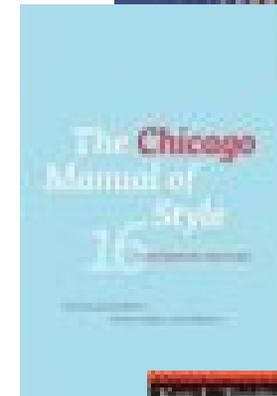
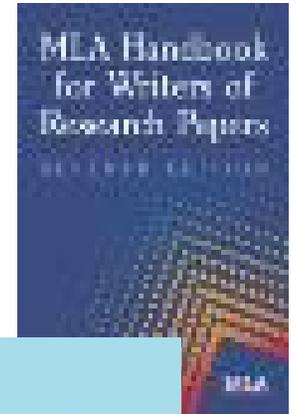
You will not retain everything, so use the style manual recommended for your faculty.

Recommended Style Manuals

Appendix IX , (Thesis Guide 36-37, 1998)

Faculty	Recommended Styles	Editions
Agriculture	Chicago	16 th ed. 2010
Engineering	Chicago	16 th ed. 2010
Humanities and Education	MLA; APA; Turabian	7 th ed., 2009; 6 th ., 2010; 7 th ed. 2007 respectively
Law	Chicago; Bluebook; Columbia Law Review; The University of Pennsylvania Law Review; Yale Law Review	Latest editions
Medical Sciences	International Committee of Medical Journal Editors/Vancouver; APA; The Oxford Dictionary for Scientific Writers and Editors	Latest editions
Pure and Applied Sciences	Chicago; ACS; AIP	Latest editions
Social Sciences	Chicago	16 th ed. (A – Notes & Bibliography)&(B- In-text and References)

Citation Websites



- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- American Institute of Physics (AIP)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- The Chicago Manual of Style Online
- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- Online Writing Lab – APA
- Online Writing Lab – MLA
- International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (Vancouver)

Scrutiny of Thesis

What do Librarians scrutinize?

- **The presentation and organization of the material** are clearly discussed in the guide. [*Thesis Guide, 5*]
 - **Tables and figures** should appear in the text closely following the point where they are first discussed, usually no further than the page following. [*Thesis Guide, 8*]
 - **The arrangement** of the thesis follows a particular sequence set out in the guide. [*Thesis Guide, 10*]
 - **The reference list** is a complete list of all the citations used in the body of the text. Citations not used in the body of the work should not be included. The style used should also conform to the recommended style of the faculty. [*Thesis Guide, 4*]
-

Common Errors

- Author's name not given as keyword
 - Citations placed in the reference list but not found in the body of the paper and vice versa
 - Inconsistency in the citations for each format (books, journal/newspaper articles, websites, etc.)
 - Inconsistency in the abbreviation of journal titles
 - Layout not conforming to the instruction given in the *Thesis Guide* that margins should be 2 "or 5 cm in width to allow for loss in binding.
 - Poor in-text citations: works not paraphrased or quoted correctly; incorrect formatting of endnotes and footnotes
-
- References not arranged in proper alphabetical order



UWI Mona Library

Mona Information Literacy Unit

Special Services to Postgraduates

- EndNote training sessions
 - Information Literacy Training sessions on using the Library's resources -- on request
 - Links to online resources via the Library's website – **postgraduate page**
 - One-on-one consultation with liaison librarians [there is a liaison librarian attached to each department]
 - Thesis scrutiny
-



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Credits

"Plagiarism: 'Kidnapping' intellectual property " Powerpoint --
prepared by C. Kean, 2007: amended V E George 2008

"Plagiarism: What is it and what to do about it?" Powerpoint
-- prepared for an IDU workshop Nov 5 2008 by V E
George; updated V E George and K Robinson 2010.