

AJMM

Academic Integrity Matters

Old Dominion University ♦ Division of Student Services ♦ Office of Student Judicial Affairs

Editor: Carol S. Locke ♦ Director of Student Judicial Affairs

2008Webb Center ♦ (757) 683-4984 ♦ Fax: (757) 683-5715 ♦ E-mail: clocke@odu.edu

February 2002

Volume 8 Issue 1

FACULTY USE TURNITIN.COM SERVICE TO THWART PLAGIARISM

The Office of Student Services arranged for 50 classes to utilize the Turnitin.com service for the 2001-2002 academic year. To date, 11 faculty members have taken advantage of this opportunity to use this convenient plagiarism detection tool, and 23 classes have been enrolled.

Turnitin.com is designed to reduce “digital plagiarism.” This online resource compares submitted papers with existing Internet documents for occurrences of plagiarism. Due to the fact that the Internet is utilized so heavily, this service is a wonderful tool to assist faculty members.

How does the service work? Interested faculty members supply their e-mail address, office phone number and the class name and course number to a representative in Student Services

who will initiate their registration. Once a faculty member is registered with the service, he/she is provided a faculty password, a class password and copies of the user manuals. The faculty password allows the faculty member to access the site, create assignment names and numbers and view “originality” reports from submitted papers. Class passwords are used by students to access the site and upload their papers for review.

Students submit their papers to Turnitin.com under faculty designated assignment numbers. Once submitted, the paper is compared against numerous databases of papers and other sources that exist on the Internet. The service utilizes “document source analysis, which employs a set of powerful algorithms to make a digital fingerprint of any text document and then compares it against millions of other sources on the Internet.” Faculty members receive an “originality report” which will reference sites and or links with similar or exact wording if any hits occurred. The faculty member can then review these sites to

determine the degree of plagiarism.

What are the advantages to using Turnitin.com? Certainly it is a time saver for faculty members because Turnitin.com does the searching for the faculty member. Additionally, according to Bob Holden, Associate Professor of History, it is an “enormous deterrent for students”. According to Dale Miller, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, “It makes it clear to students that you are serious about trying to detect plagiarism, which probably deters most would-be plagiarists.” Additionally, Professor Miller indicated “In at least one case it helped me detect that a paper was plagiarized when it wasn’t obvious to me just from reading the paper. In other cases it helped me determine the extent to which a paper of which I was already suspicious was borrowed.”

What are the disadvantages? The service’s searches are limited to material that is in Turnitin.com’s databases (which is updated daily) and material that is already on the Internet. Therefore, a paper could still be plagiarized using documents outside the service’s search parameters. Faculty members are encouraged to remember that this is only one tool to detect and deter academic dishonesty. Dale Miller suggests, “If you are suspicious but the site doesn’t detect any plagiarism you should still spend some time looking for copied phrases with a search engine like Altavista or Google.”

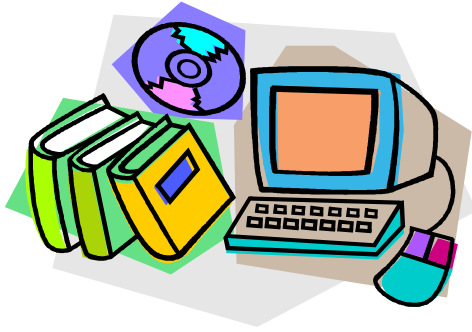
If you are interested in utilizing the service, please contact Carol Locke, Director for Judicial Affairs at 683-4433.



FALL 2001 REPORTED ACADEMIC DISHONESTY VIOLATIONS BY COLLEGE (As of 12-31-01)

➤ College of Arts and Letters	5
➤ College of Business and Public Administration	9
➤ Darden College of Education	1
➤ College of Engineering and Technology	6
➤ College of Health Science	2
➤ College of Sciences	2
➤ No College Designated	3
➤ Non-Credit	1

Total **29**



CHEATING 101: PAPER MILLS AND YOU

The following excerpt is taken from a Teaching Effectiveness Seminar presented by Margaret Fain and Peggy Bates at Coastal Carolina University. The article in its entirety can be viewed at <http://www.coastal.edu/library/papermill.htm>. The authors invite you to view the staggering nine page list of Internet paper mills to see just how prevalent the paper mill offerings are.

“Term Paper Mills have been available on the Internet since 1996 and have already gone global. We call them paper mills because despite their rhetoric, these sites are in the business of providing pre-written research papers. Most sites contain disclaimers telling potential buyers not to submit these papers for a grade, but students can and do turn in these papers as their own.

Our list of Internet Term Paper Sites includes over 150 sites that were active as of August 2001. The list of Subject Specific Term Paper Sites contains an additional 71 sites. How much does it cost to get a paper?

- Some sites give the papers away for free-click on the site and download the paper.
- Some give papers away but require you to register.
- Some sites act as an exchange- you must submit a paper to get a “free” paper.
- Some sites charge only a membership fee that allows subsequent access.

- Most charge by the page, ranging from \$1-\$10 per page. They’ll bill your credit card something unrecognizable like “Research Inc” or AmeriCorp.”
- If your paper is due tomorrow and mail is too slow, you can get immediate delivery by e-mail- for an extra \$15.
- After scanning the papers available, if you don’t see anything suitable for your assignment- No Problem—they will custom write one from you for an exorbitant fee.
- They even run sales and summer blowout specials.”

To view the compiled list of Internet paper mill sites, go to <http://www.coastal.edu/library/mills2.htm>, The site was updated in March of 2001, and the authors warn that the list of Internet Paper mills grows daily.

Reprinted with permission. Teaching Effectiveness Seminar Coastal Carolina University. March 5, 1999, revised March 26, 2001. Cheating 101: Paper Mills and You. Retrieved 12/15/01 from <http://www.coastal.edu/library/papermill.htm>.

INTERNET RESOURCES FOR FACULTY MEMBERS

The Internet provides a wealth of information related to academic integrity. Check out these sites for helpful information to aid you in deterring academic dishonesty in your classroom:

www.wmich.edu/library/uses/faculty/plagiarism-faculty.html

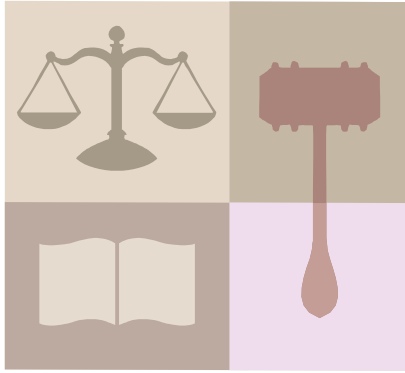
www.cin.org/themes/plagiarism.html

www.uga.berklry.edu/sled/bgd/prevent.html

www.ethics.sandiego.edu/video/CEPE2000/Cheating/index.html

www.Plagiarism.org

www.coastal.edu/library/papermill.html



ODU HONOR COUNCIL PROVIDES EXAMPLES OF CHEATING BEHAVIORS

What is cheating? That question is often hotly debated among students, faculty, and administrators. Indeed, one of the reasons that academic dishonesty is so prevalent on college campuses is a lack of understanding of what behaviors constitute academic dishonesty.

Certainly, one of the key tools in our educational arsenal to reduce incidents of academic dishonesty is awareness. Academic dishonesty includes a wide range of behaviors as the list below highlights. However, many faculty members and certainly a large portion of our students fail to identify the behaviors as inappropriate. Or they may view the behaviors as inappropriate, but would not label them as academic dishonesty. Where do you stand on the issue? Take a moment to look at the list below provided by the Old Dominion University Honor Council and talk with your students to educate them regarding academic dishonesty behaviors.

-
- Taking an exam from or for someone else
 - Purchasing term papers and turning them in as your own work
 - Copying materials without footnoting or citing
 - Padding items on a bibliography
 - Faking an illness to avoid a test
 - Copying from another student's exam
 - Submitting the same term paper to

- multiple classes without permission
- Studying a copy of an exam prior to taking a make-up
- Giving another student answers during an exam
- Reviewing previous copies of an instructor's exam without permission
- Reviewing a stolen copy of an exam
- Turning in a dry lab report without doing the experiment
- Sabotaging someone else's work
- Failing to report grade errors
- Collaborating on homework and or take-home exams when the instructor called for independent work
- Giving test questions to students in other classes
- Sharing answers during exams by utilizing a system of signals
- Developing a personal relationship with an instructor to get test information
- Plagiarism
- Studying tests or used term papers from fraternity or sorority files
- Engaging in bribery or blackmail
- Hiring a ghost writer
- Hiring a ringer
- Using papers found in the Internet as your own
- Altering or forging an official university document
- Swapping of computer programming disks
- Using unauthorized material (note cards, calculators, hand-held computers, etc.) on tests or quizzes.¹

¹ ODU Honor Council's Examples of Cheating Activities
handout. 4/18/01 edition

IMPORTANT CAMPUS RESOURCES TO NOTE

Student Judicial Affairs

(757)-683-3431

<http://www.odu.edu/osja>

Honor Council

(757) 683-4350

http://www.odu.edu/AO/student_serv/hc/