

Introduction to Academic Integrity at UNB

In this video, you will learn about:

- expectations regarding ethical behavior at UNB,
- different types of academic misconduct, and
- the function of citations in academic work.

Academic integrity refers to the values of honesty, accountability, and respect that are at the heart of knowledge creation and academic inquiry at UNB. All students, staff, and faculty are expected to apply these values in their activities at UNB and to practice ethical behaviour in their broader academic and scientific communities.

Cultivating ethical behavior in your work at UNB helps you meet UNB's standards of conduct but also prepares you for professional life upon graduation. Employers will not only expect you to demonstrate concrete skills, such as critical reasoning and oral expression, but also ethical behaviour.

Beyond UNB, the core values of honesty and accountability inform research and academic publishing standards. These values are also essential for innovation and professional conduct. For instance, effective delivery of medical treatments, government services, and teaching at all levels. Many other essential industries and services depend on honesty and accountability in research, such as engineering and agriculture.

Self-reflection Question: How will honesty and accountability be important in your chosen future career?

Understanding what academic misconduct is and knowing how to avoid it are fundamental to academic success. Section VIII of the [University Wide Academic Regulations](#) provides definitions of and penalties for academic offences. Examples of academic misconduct include: plagiarism, cheating on examinations, tests or assignments, and falsifying academic documents.

UNB's regulations define plagiarism as:

- “quoting verbatim or almost verbatim from any source, regardless of format, without acknowledgement;
- adopting someone else's line of thought, argument, arrangement, or supporting evidence (such as, statistics, bibliographies, etc.) without indicating such dependence;
- submitting someone else's work, in whatever form (essay, film, workbook, artwork, computer materials, etc.) without acknowledgement;
- knowingly representing as one's own work any idea of another” (UNB Senate and Board of Governors, n.d., part VIII, section A).

The regulations also prohibit resubmitting for credit your own work that has been used for another course, which is a form of self-plagiarism. An example of self-plagiarism, from the University Wide Academic Regulations, includes

- “submitting identical or substantially similar work for one course or program of

study, which has been or is being submitted for another course or program of study, without the prior express knowledge and approval of the instructors” (UNB Senate and Board of Governors, n.d., part VIII, section B).

The act of citing means formally giving credit to authors or creators whose work and ideas you have borrowed. Think of citing as entering into the academic conversation in your area of study where you synthesize, build on, and respond to others’ ideas.

Including citations in your work matters because citations

- show that you are informed about your topic,
- distinguish your work and ideas from the works of others,
- help the reader locate your sources, and
- help you use sources with integrity by giving credit where credit is due.

Self-reflection Question: Why is it important to give credit when utilizing someone’s work and ideas?

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- different types of academic misconduct, and
- the function of citations in academic work.

Useful Contacts

Student Advocate, STAFFAIR@unb.ca

Research Help Desk, Harriet Irving Library, askus@unb.ca

The Writing and Study Skills Centre

- Fredericton, WSS@unb.ca
- Saint John, unbsjwritingcentre@unb.ca

References

UNB Senate and Board of Governors Fredericton and Saint John. (n.d.). *University wide academic regulations*. Retrieved Nov 17, 2020, from <https://www.unb.ca/academics/calendar/undergraduate/current/regulations/universitywideacademicregulations/>