

## Plagiarism definition & policy

Put simply, plagiarism is the use of another person's work without acknowledging that they are the original source or author. This includes directly quoting, loosely paraphrasing or using a person's ideas, written text, formulas or **any other** original information without giving them appropriate credit.

In order to acknowledge the author or original source, they must be given an in-text citation **and** included in the bibliography at the end of your essay.

In order to detect cases of plagiarism, NUI Galway uses an advanced online plagiarism detection programme called Turnitin (<http://turnitin.com/>). An originality report is produced for work submitted to Turnitin. The originality report indicates what percentage of the paper is similar to or matches other sources found on the Turnitin database and in other online resources.

The penalties for plagiarism are severe, and as of the start of the 2012/13 academic year NUI Galway has adopted a penalty point system to deal with such cases. This Plagiarism Code and more information on the penalties it carries can be found here: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/plagiarism/>

To summarise, any use of another person's work without correctly acknowledging that they are the original source is an act of plagiarism. Students are strongly advised to read the Plagiarism Code and to approach a member of staff if they are unclear on any points.

## Help with avoiding plagiarism

A useful tool for NUI Galway, School of Nursing and Midwifery students highlighting how to reference correctly can be found at [www.referencingguidelines.com](http://www.referencingguidelines.com)

Guidance and access to electronic guides to paraphrasing and referencing will be provided to ensure that students have the information they require to appropriately paraphrase and reference accurately.

Students will also have the option to submit their work to Turnitin prior to final submission. This will allow students to check their own work for plagiarism and act as a tool to improve students referencing skills. Students will be provided with verbal and written guidance on how to: (1) submit their work to Turnitin and (2) interpret the originality report.

