Policy on Plagiarism

Academic integrity is expected of all students at Temasek Polytechnic. The Polytechnic requires all students to be assessed for their own work. All students are required to provide **proper acknowledgement** or **attribution of all original sources** used in their assignments, projects or other assessed work. Students who use Artificial Intelligence (AI) programmes to assist in writing their assignments and who submit the work obtained from these AI programmes as their own are considered to have plagiarised the work.

Definition

Plagiarism is the act of **taking and using the whole or any part of another person's work and/or the work generated by AI and presenting it as your own** without proper acknowledgement.

Examples of 'work' include text, writing, computer programmes, web pages, on-line discussions, videos, music, sound recordings, images, photographs, technical drawings, inventions, research findings, diagrams, charts, artwork or designs, any text and images produced by AI generative tools.

Disciplinary Action

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Disciplinary action will be taken against students caught for plagiarism. If you knowingly allow another student to use the whole or part of your work and present it as his or her own work, you could be liable for abetting plagiarism.
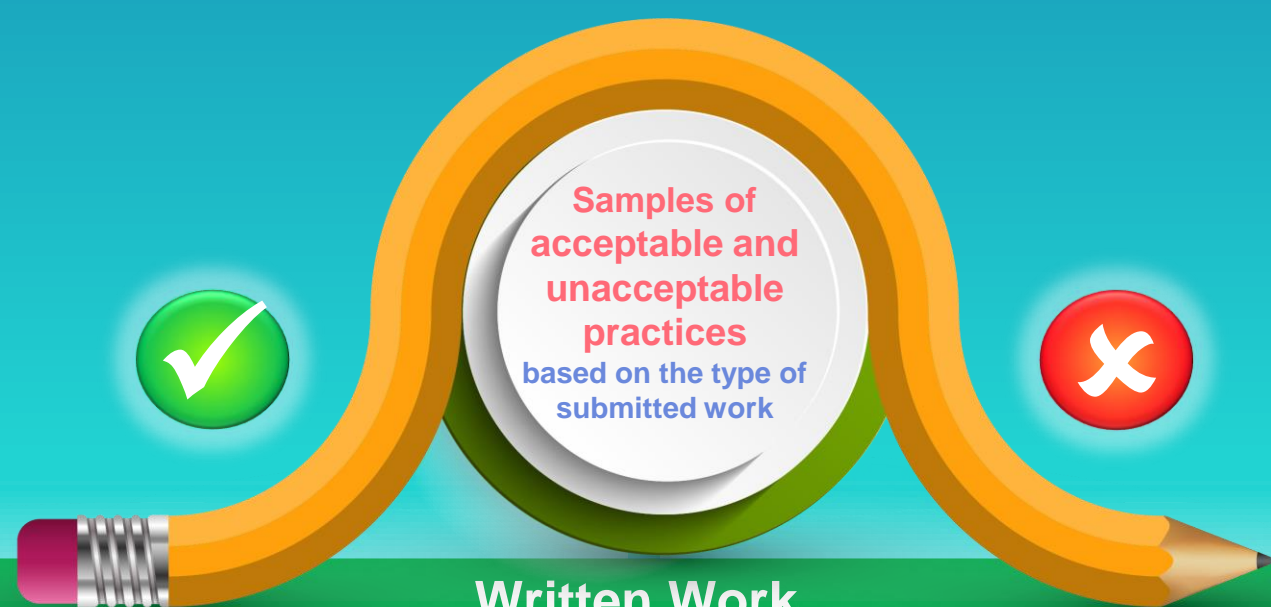
The penalty for plagiarism and abetting plagiarism could include **failing the subject**, **suspension and removal from academic course of study**.

How to Avoid Plagiarism

1. Submit work for assessment comprising your original ideas, experiences, observations and comments.

2. Acknowledge the original source of work(s), including AI-generated content, if the use of AI tools is permitted. Use the appropriate referencing format.

3. Cite the source whenever you paraphrase, quote or summarise work from a source.

4. Do not use any part or the whole of the work of another student or graduate who had taken the subject previously.

5. Do not ask someone else to do your assignments, projects or other assessed work.

When in doubt, check with your lecturers and seek advice on the appropriate referencing format for the acknowledgment of all original sources of work used in your assignments, projects or other work.

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Samples of acceptable and unacceptable practices
based on the type of submitted work

Written Work

- Students should demonstrate original thought, research effort, and internalisation of concepts to support the main ideas and arguments in the preparation of written assignments.

- Students must paraphrase accordingly and use the appropriate referencing when citing sources or acknowledging them to avoid plagiarism. This applies to all content, including AI-generated content if the assignment allows the use of AI tools.

- Do not present and submit work completed by others as your own, including work done by (a) fellow students that was shared with you, (b) generative AI, (c) outsourced professionally written report that you present as your own work.

- Do not copy large sections of text or diagrams or other artefacts without acknowledging or citing the source.

Programming Assignments

- Students must write their own source code, clearly documented with their own comments to demonstrate the algorithm development and logical thinking behind the code.

- Students must provide proper acknowledgement using the appropriate referencing format, if the assignment permits the use of open-source code and/or AI-generated content.

- Do not use open-source code and/or code generated using AI tools unless the assignment explicitly allows such use.

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Design Assignments

Research : Investigate & Analyse Data

Submitted work should display an understanding of research methods and synthesis of different research sources. Cite the sources and document the research process.

Submitted work consists of unedited work from others or AI-generated work, without citation and reference of the research process.

Design Exploration : Explore & Generate Ideas

Submitted work should display the thinking process and exploration of ideas. Cite and document the design process through the compilation and iterations of AI-generated ideas.

Submitted work consists of:

a) copying, in part or whole, copyrighted images or work that belongs to another designer/artist,

b) unedited large portions of AI-generated artwork, without citation and documentation of overall idea development.

Execution : Finalise & Present Design Proposals

Submitted work should show the evolution of the final executed work. Cite the sources and document the design process through the compilation and iterations of AI-generated works.

Submitted work consists of:

a) copying, in part or whole, copyrighted images or work that belongs to another designer/ artist,

b) unedited large portions of AI-generated artwork, without citation and documentation that demonstrate the development and thinking process, supporting the evolution of the final proposal.

Policy on Plagiarism

Assignments are meant to assess students' understanding of content covered in the subject, **critical reflection** of the pertinent issues and **expression of ideas in their own words**. In the course of doing so, students may be required to paraphrase, summarise or quote text from other sources. Regardless of whether a student is paraphrasing, summarising or quoting text, there is a **need to cite the original source**.

Examples of paraphrasing, summarising and quoting

Paraphrasing is restating a sentence in your own words, and using your own sentence structure, of specific ideas and information from a source (Stern, 2012).

Summarising is putting the main ideas into your own words, including only main points (University of Purdue Writing Lab, 2022)

Quoting is reproducing, exactly, spoken or written words from a text (University of New South Wales Writing Centre, 2022)

Original Text

"In order to communicate effectively with other people, one must have a reasonably accurate idea of what they do and do not know that is pertinent to the communication. Treating people as though they have knowledge that they do not have can result in miscommunication and perhaps embarrassment. On the other hand, a fundamental rule of conversation, at least according to a Gricean view, is that one generally does not convey to others information that one can assume they already have."

Taken from Raymond S. Nickerson's "How We Know-and Sometimes Misjudge-What Others Know: Imputing One's Own Knowledge to Others." Psychological Bulletin 125.6 (1999): p737.

Paraphrased Text

Nickerson (1999) suggests that effective communication depends on a generally accurate knowledge of what the audience knows. If a speaker assumes too much knowledge about the subject, the audience will either misunderstand or be bewildered; however, assuming too little knowledge among those in the audience may cause them to feel patronized (Nickerson 1999: 737).

Summarised Text

Nickerson (1999) argues that clear communication hinges upon what an audience does and does not know. It is crucial to assume the audience has neither too much nor too little knowledge of the subject, or the communication may be inhibited by either confusion or offense (Nickerson 1999: 737).

Quoted Text

"In order to communicate effectively with other people, one must have a reasonably accurate idea of what they do and do not know that is pertinent to the communication. Treating people as though they have knowledge that they do not have can result in miscommunication and perhaps embarrassment. On the other hand, a fundamental rule of conversation, at least according to a Gricean view, is that one generally does not convey to others information that one can assume they already have." (Nickerson 1999: 737).

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