Craft of Research

Session 5

Plagiarism and Misconduct
Outline

๏ Plagiarism
๏ Costs of Misconduct
๏ Reminders
Plagiarism

What is it and why do we care?
Plagiarism

• Deliberately or inadvertently using someone else’s language, ideas, or other original material without acknowledging the source

• Run the risk of plagiarism by doing the following:
  • Quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing a source w/out citing
  • Idea or methods from a source w/out citing
  • Exact words from a cited source, but w/out quotation marks or block quotation
  • Paraphrasing and citing, but using very similar words and/or phrasing
Common Plagiarism in Academia

1. Replication
2. Duplication
3. Secondary source
4. Misleading attribution
5. Invalid source
6. Paraphrasing
7. Repetitive research
8. Unethical collaboration
9. Verbatim
10. Complete
Replication ("Shotgunning")

- Submitting a manuscript to multiple publications in an attempt to get it published more than once

- Solution:
  - Submit to only one journal at a time
  - If rejected, then submit to a second journal (and so forth)
Duplication

• Re-using work from one’s own previous studies and papers without attribution

• Solution:
  • Give credit to your previous work or foundational work
  • Do another study
Secondary Source

• Using a secondary source, but only citing the primary sources contained within the secondary one

• Solution:
  • Paraphrase and cite both the secondary and primary source
  • Alternatively, read the primary source and write your own words after reading the primary
Misleading Attribution

- Removing an author’s name, despite significant contributions
- Inaccurate or insufficient list of authors who contributed to the manuscript

**Solution:**
- List all persons who made a significant contribution to the writing, methodology, and ideas
- Before writing, explicitly communicate the authorship and order of co-authors
- Make sufficient acknowledgements when appropriate
Invalid Source

- Referencing either an incorrect or nonexistent source

- **Solution:**
  - Double and triple check your citations and references
  - Understand your appropriate publishing style (i.e., APA, MLA, journal specific, etc.)
  - Don’t fabricate or make up information
Paraphrasing

• Taking the words of another and using them alongside original text without attribution

• Solution:
  • Use appropriate in-text citations so you give credit for the information
Repetitive Research

• Repeating data or text form a similar study with a similar methodology in a new study without proper attribution

• Solution:
  • Rather than repeating data, use the information from the previous study as justification for your study (i.e., disagreement in the field about the info, you can do it with more effective methodology, there’s a gap in the literature that wasn’t addressed, etc.)
  • Be innovative
Unethical Collaboration

- Accidentally or intentionally use each other’s written work without proper attribution
- When people who are working together violate a code of conduct

Solution:
- Use proper citations
- Clarify institution/partnership/personal expectations of conduct prior to collaboration
Verbatim

- Copying of another’s words and works without providing proper attribution, indentation, or quotation marks

- Solution:
  - Paraphrase with citations
  - Understand and use your publishing style’s quotation formatting requirements
Complete

• Taking a manuscript from another researcher and resubmitting it under one’s own name

• Solution:
  • Find a new profession
Types of Plagiarism in Research

- Secondary Source
- Duplication
- Unethical Collaboration
- Invalid Source
- Paraphrasing
- Repetitive Research
- Verbatim
- Misleading Attribution
- Replication
- Complete

More Common: 1 to 9
More Serious: 1 to 10
Most Common Forms of Plagiarism and Attribution Issues in Research

- Paraphrasing: 75%
- Repetitive Research: 71%
- Secondary Source: 69%
- Duplication: 63%
- Verbatim: 59%
Most Serious Forms of Plagiarism and Attribution Issues in Research

- Complete: 88%
- Verbatim: 84%
- Unethical Collaboration: 82%
- Misleading Attribution: 82%
- Replication: 77%
Case Study #1

- What were the seminal issues in the article?
- Why did this happen?
- What does this mean to her career?
Costs of Academic Misconduct
Costs of Academic Misconduct

- Rising number of academic misconduct – why?
  - 2% admit to falsifying research
  - 34% admit to questionable research practices
- Individual costs
- Brand costs
- Capital costs
- Human costs
Costs of Academic Misconduct

Individual Costs
- Loss of job
- Revoked PhD
- Revoked awards
- Lawsuits
- Questionable integrity

Brand Costs
- Damaged reputation and brand name
- Retractions
- Talent loss
- Sales losses
Costs of Academic Misconduct

Capital Costs
- Lawsuits
- Legal costs
- Investigation costs
- Loss of grant money

Human Costs
- Misdiagnosis
- Research costs
- Lost time
Preventing Misconduct

- Awareness of proper research methods, data collection, citations, and plagiarism for students, researchers, and publications
- Thorough screening of publication submissions
- Using plagiarism electronic tools