Honor Council Orientation 2020

Module 3



Sam is writing a History research paper. While reading for his project, he finds a passage in Howard Zinn's A People's History of the United States that perfectly states the idea he is trying to get across. Sam reads the passage carefully, and decides to paraphrase it by putting the ideas in his own words. Because the writing is his own, and he already had the idea before he accessed the book, he feels that he does not have to cite Zinn in his paper.

- Has Sam committed a violation? Yes!
- Why? He paraphrased Zinn's ideas without properly crediting Zinn.
- What should he have done? Cited Zinn's source with internal documentation and a full citation in a bibliography/works cited.
- Paraphrasing, as well as direct quotes require citation, otherwise it is plagiarism.

Izzie has a take home examination for Chemistry, and has 2 hours to complete the assessment. Izzie chooses to take her exam in her dorm room; however, in the course of completing her test, she loses track of time and accidentally continues to work on her test 15 minutes longer than the allotted time. Izzie decides to say nothing about the incident since it was an honest mistake.

- Has Izzie committed a violation? Yes!
- Why? She took more time than was allowed on her take home.
- What should she have done? Crossed out any work that was done in the additional 15 minutes, so that it is not graded, before contacting the professor to explain the situation.
- Taking any more time than allowed is considered fraud!

Ricky is struggling to finish a paper the night before it is due. In the course of his frenzied work, he comes across a quotation for which he forgot to record the proper source. Because he is flustered and only has a few hours to finish his assignment, Ricky attributes the quotation to a random page number from a book and author that he had previously reference, but from which the quotation did not originate.

- Has Ricky committed a violation? Yes!
- Why? He falsely attributed a quote to a source from which it did not come.
- What should he have done? Kept his sources better organized, made every effort to find the correct source. If he could not find the correct source, he should have eliminated the quote altogether.
- Faking citations is academic fraud!

Kaitlyn and her roommate Vaishnavi are in the same calculus class. One evening, the class is assigned to complete a closed book, closed note take home quiz on Canvas. Kaitlyn notices her roommate open the tab for the quiz, and subsequently take out her textbook. Vaishnavi flips through pages, and obviously references the book throughout the course of the assessment. Kaitlyn says and does nothing.

- Have Kaitlyn and Vaishnavi committed violations? Yes, both
- Why? Vaishnavi used an unauthorized source while Kaitlyn ignored Vaishnavi's violation
- What should they have done? Vaishnavi should have used only sources authorized by the professor. Kaitlyn should have reported Vaishnavi to the Honor Council by submitting a formal letter of accusation.
- Use only sources allowed explicitly by the instructor.
- Not reporting a violation is also a violation.

Clay and Eugenio are assigned to be lab partners for a biology class. For their first lab assignment, they are allowed to collect data, take notes, and complete their experiment together, but are required to produce a report that is independently crafted. The two students work together appropriately in the complete of the experiment. When it comes time for them to craft their independent reports they decide to sit at the same table in Fondren, so they can ask each other questions if any arise. As they work on their reports, they exchange a few ideas about the project that ultimately end up in both reports.

- Have Clay and Eugenio committed violations? Yes!
- Why? They exchanged ideas for a report that should have been done individually.
- What should they have done? Not collaborated when writing the reports.
- Be sure that you have explicit permission from the instructor to work on homework and lab reports with other students, tutors, etc.



Module 3 Complete