



Policy Title: POLICY STATEMENT ON STUDENT DISCIPLINE -PLAGIARISM

Policy Number: Law_7

Established: December 16, 2010 **by** Associate Dean

Revision Date:

Position Responsible for Maintaining and Administering the Policy: Associate Dean

Purpose:

Scope: all students enrolled in Windsor Law

Exceptions to Policy: none

Cross-References: none

Procedures: none

Policy Statements:

**UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR
FACULTY OF LAW**

**POLICY STATEMENT ON STUDENT DISCIPLINE
PLAGIARISM**

Comment: Merely taking the ideas or expression of another is not in itself plagiarism. The substance of plagiarism is that the plagiarist passes off the ideas or expression of another as his or her own. Thus, the application of the precepts and practices learned in legal writing, particularly the full acknowledgement of sources, is the best safeguard against plagiarism. *When a student is in doubt as to the proper treatment and acknowledgement of the ideas or expressions of another, the best course of conduct is to consult the professor for whom the work is being prepared.* **Plagiarism will be presumed in any case of appropriating the expression or ideas of another without full acknowledgement of sources.**

Examples:

- (a) submitting as his or her own work an exam or other piece of academic work which has been authored or prepared either wholly or partly by someone else;
- (b) submitting academic work containing passages taken either verbatim or with occasional word changes from the works of others where such passages are not properly acknowledged;
- (c) submitting a paper or other academic work which adopts the ideas of other authors without giving appropriate acknowledgement.

The following examples of plagiarism have recently been the subject of disciplinary complaints:

1. Failure to use quotation marks or offset the paragraph when directly quoting a source even

when the source is footnoted;

2. Failure to cite a source when the source is paraphrased;
3. Failure to attribute a directly quoted or paraphrased passage to the correct source (e.g. quoting directly from or paraphrasing material from a textbook, treatise, article, etc., and reproducing the footnotes appearing in this source rather than footnoting the source itself);
4. Reproduction of another student's table of authorities, bibliography, footnotes, etc.;
5. Failure to cite a passage quoted or paraphrased from a website;

In addition, the *Policy Statement on Student Discipline* identifies as improper conduct a student submitting his or her own academic work in a course without disclosing to the professor that this academic work was authored or prepared, either wholly or partly, for another course or purpose.

The *Policy Statement on Student Discipline* also:

1. addresses improper conduct relating to exams (cheating),
2. provides the sanctions that can be imposed by the Discipline Committee for improper conduct.

Review Process for Policy:

Process for Communicating Policy: Windsor Law policies webpage.

Definitions:

Plagiarism is defined by Black's Law Dictionary (revised 4th edition):

The act of appropriating the literary composition of another of parts or passages of his writing, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them off as the product of one's own mind.

The Oxford English dictionary defines plagiarism:

the wrongful appropriation or purloining, and publication as one's own, of the ideas or the expression of the ideas (literary, artistic, musical, mechanical, etc.) of another.

Appendices: none