Plagiarism
Strategies for Prevention
Why do I have to cite?

• Readers of your paper want to know where you got your information.
• It shows respect for the intellectual property of other authors.
• Academic research is built on research that scholars have already done.
• You could be accused of plagiarism if you don’t cite your sources properly.
What is plagiarism?

- Plagiarism is using another’s work without giving credit.
- Everything you use from a secondary source needs a citation (that’s how you give credit).
- Redlands’ policy on Plagiarism is found in the Student Handbook:

  **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

  Students attending RCC are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to an educational institution of higher learning and to pursue course work in an honest and ethical manner. Any academic dishonesty including cheating, collusion or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar and/or writer—professional or student—without giving proper credit. Expulsion, suspension or any lesser penalty may be imposed for plagiarism.

  *2014-15 Student Handbook, p. 37*
What do I have to cite?

- Another person’s idea, opinion, or theory.
- Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings—any pieces of information—that are not common knowledge.
- Quotations of another person’s actual spoken or written words.
- Paraphrase of another person’s spoken or written words.
What is Common Knowledge?

• Facts that can be found in multiple general reference sources.
  • Example: There are 206 bones in the human adult body.
  • No need to cite.

• Facts that are not commonly known or easily found do need citation.
  • Example: About one individual in 20 has an extra rib (“Skeleton”).
Quoting

• Put the direct quote in quotation marks and copy word-for-word.
• Include a citation in the text, as follows:
  “We also found that CAD and gallstone disease share several common risk factors such as higher total cholesterol and lower HDL cholesterol level” (Jiang, et al. 6).
• Include a full citation in the bibliography, as follows:
Paraphrasing

• Re-write the sentence or paragraph in your own words.
• Include a citation in the text of the essay, as follows:

Jiang, et al. found a correlation between gallbladder disease and coronary artery disease; both had risk factors of lower HDL and higher total cholesterol (6).

• Include a full citation in the bibliography:

How do I Cite Visual Information?


• No other citation needed, unless this source is used elsewhere in the paper.
How do I Cite a Website?

• These examples were all built using articles from library databases.

• When building your own citation, follow this format:

  Author (last name, first name). “Title of Article.” *Name of Website*. Name of
  Publisher or Sponsor. Date posted or updated. Web. Date accessed. <Include
  the full URL if it might be hard to find the webpage using a general search engine>.

• Example:

  /hepatic_and_biliary_disorders/gallbladder_and_bile_duct_disorders/
  tumors_of_the_gallbladder_and_bile_ducts.html>.
Need More Help?

• MLA Formatting and Style Guide
• APA Formatting and Style Guide
• Library website: http://library.redlandscc.edu
• Email the library: library@redlandscc.edu
• Visit the library and/or Writing Center
  • Monday - Thursday 8-8; Friday 8-5
• Tutor.com in Blackboard