

Department of Economics

Academic Integrity Good Practice

Dos and Don'ts

Do

- Use your own words when describing the ideas of others. An essay/report/policy brief, etc is an exercise in writing, not an exercise in how good you are at copy-pasting others' words.
- Complete the Library's courses on and [Introduction to Referencing](#), [Plagiarism](#) and [Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity](#)
- Refresh your Economics [Academic Writing Skills](#)
- When you are writing your own notes, use your own words to cover the relevant ideas and details of the source material. Keep track of who/where you are taking ideas from.
- Discuss assignments with other students but write your own notes after the discussion and always ensure that work you submit is your own.
- When doing groupwork, ensure that all group members understand what plagiarism is and that there is no plagiarism within the piece of work.

Don't

- Copy and paste from source text and/or lecture notes.
- Copy shared notes from a study/revision group into an assignment or exam – you don't know who else in the group might have done the same!
- Submit your work to Turnitin or other plagiarism checking software as this will automatically get flagged on our system due to a high percentage match.
- Use a paraphrasing website or other similar software, this will increase your chances of being flagged for plagiarism – don't be afraid to use your own words!
- Lend your work to another student or post it on an online essay mill. This may expose you to an accusation of misconduct.
- Engage in any form of contact with another student during a test or an exam, including any form of verbal or written contact (e.g., WhatsApp, instant messaging, etc).

In 2025/26, we investigated 100 cases, which involved 121 students being investigated in the Department. From these cases, 35 students were found to have committed poor academic practice and a further 33 students were found to have committed misconduct and had penalties applied to their marks. Since 2021 we have had 30 decisions appealed by students and the University has upheld the Department's decision in 29 instances.

Avoid being part of the statistics!