Introduction

Welcome… to the Academic Integrity Program.

Through this online Academic Integrity Program, you will have the opportunity to learn why, when and how to confidently reference – effectively and correctly.

Before examining Academic Referencing, Quoting, Paraphrasing, Summarising, and Synthesising, it is important to present you with an overview to understand what Academic Integrity is.

Notice that the word ‘Plagiarism’ hasn’t been mentioned – that’s intentional. Have you heard about Plagiarism? It’s most likely that you have.

You will have the opportunity through this program to recognise what plagiarism looks like. However, rather than focusing on plagiarism, you will have the opportunity to know the main purpose of referencing and to learn to reference well.

New Skills

Try to picture the following in your mind.

Can you picture your first driving lesson? Hopefully the driving instructor didn’t scare you by telling you about all the accidents you might have when behind the wheel.

Instead, a good driving instructor would help you to relax, start the car, put it gear, gently accelerate, and start moving forward.

Accidents can happen, but there’ll be less chance when you’ve learnt to apply your new found skills.

This is how the Program will take you on the journey – learn the skills of referencing, practise applying them, and become confident and competent in Academic Integrity.

This Academic Integrity Program will look at:

- Understanding: what is Academic Integrity,
- Note-making: part of the process from original text to your assignment,
- Quoting: copying the exact words from the source into your assignment,
- Paraphrasing: part of the process from your notes to your assignment,
- Synthesising: part of the process of combining paraphrases to develop your argument or create a new idea, and
- Referencing: part of academic discourse from beginning to end – not just the mechanics.

Please enjoy this Curtin University resource – it will provide you with a set of necessary skills to be a successful academic student. And please do give us your feedback by completing the survey at the end of the program.