

Plagiarism: AVC Student Code of Conduct -- Academic Honesty Policy

To submit a report of Violation of the Academic Honesty Policy, please:

[Click Here](#)

“Violation of the Academic Honesty Policy: Dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating, or plagiarism. Plagiarism—from the Latin word for “kidnap” ---involves using another’s work without giving proper credit, whether done accidentally or on purpose. This includes not only words and ideas, but also graphs, artwork, music, maps, statistics, diagrams, scientific data, software, films, videos and the like. Plagiarism is plagiarism whether the material is from published or unpublished sources. It does not matter whether ideas are stolen, bought, downloaded from the Internet, or written for the student by someone else—it is still plagiarism. Even if only bits and pieces of other sources are used, or outside sources reworded, they must still be cited. To avoid problems, students should cite any source(s) and check with the instructor before submitting an assignment or project. Students are always responsible for any plagiarism in their work. An instructor who determines that a student has cheated or plagiarized has the right to give an **“F” grade, or the numerical equivalent, for the assignment or examination only.”**

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to “plagiarize” means

- To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one’s own
- To use (another’s production) without crediting the source
- To commit literary theft
- To present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source

Plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else’s work and lying about it afterward.

But can words and ideas really be stolen?

According to U.S. law, the answer is yes. The expression of original ideas is considered intellectual property, and is protected by copyright laws, just like original inventions. Almost all forms of expression fall under copyright protection as long as they are recorded in some way (such as a book or a computer file).

All of the following are considered plagiarism:

- Turning in someone else’s work as your own
- Copying word or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on “fair use” rules)

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed, and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source, is usually enough to prevent plagiarism. See our section on [citation](#) for more information on how to cite sources properly (“What Is Plagiarism?” [Plagiarism.org](#). iParadigms, 2014. Web. 20 June. 2017.)

Education Code §[76033](#) lists the types of behavior or good cause legal standard by which a student may be suspended and/or possible recommended for expulsion.

EC §76033. As used in this article, “good cause” includes, but is not limited to, the following offenses, occurring while enrolled as a student:

- (a) Continued disruptive behavior, continued willful disobedience, habitual profanity or vulgarity, or the open and persistent defiance of the authority of, or persistent abuse of, college personnel.
- (b) Assault, battery, or any threat of force or violence upon a student or college personnel.
- (c) Willful misconduct which results in injury or death to a student or college personnel or which results in cutting, defacing, or other injury to any real or personal property owned by the district.
- (d) The use, sale, or possession on campus of, or presence on campus under the influence of, any controlled substance, or any poison classified as such by Schedule D in Section 4160 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (e) Willful or persistent smoking in any area where smoking has been prohibited by law or by regulation of the governing board.
- (f) Persistent, serious misconduct where other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct.
- (g) Sexual assault, defined as actual or attempted sexual contact with another person without that person's consent, regardless of the victim's affiliation with the community college, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - (1) Intentional touching of another person's intimate parts without that person's consent or other intentional sexual contact with another person without that person's consent.
 - (2) Coercing, forcing, or attempting to coerce or force a person to touch another person's intimate parts without that person's consent.
 - (3) Rape, which includes penetration, no matter how slight, without the person's consent, of either of the following:
 - (A) The vagina or anus of a person by any body part of another person or by an object.
 - (B) The mouth of a person by a sex organ of another person.

(h) Sexual exploitation, defined as a person taking sexual advantage of another person for the benefit of anyone other than that person without that person's consent, regardless of the victim's affiliation with the community college, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) Prostituting another person.
- (2) Recording images, including video or photograph, or audio of another person's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nakedness without that person's consent.
- (3) Distributing images, including video or photograph, or audio of another person's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nakedness, if the individual distributing the images or audio knows or should have known that the person depicted in the images or audio did not consent to the disclosure and objected to the disclosure.
- (4) Viewing another person's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nakedness in a place where that person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy, without that person's consent, and for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 232, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2016.)

***It is important to recognize the use of terms such as: **continued, persistent, habitual, and willful** as it relates to types of student misconduct which may be considered for suspension and possible expulsion. To pass the “reasonable” test by which all suspensions and recommendations for expulsion must legally stand it is important that we document every effort we make with a student regarding their unacceptable behavior (verbal, written and otherwise) that precede formally removing them from class through the suspension process. Please forward to the Vice-President of Student Services (or designee) copies of documentation of actions you have taken with a student whom you are temporarily suspending from class.