What Do You Say When They Come to You?:
Librarians Helping Faculty Address Plagiarism

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What Do You Say When They Come to You?

Librarians Helping Faculty Address Plagiarism

ACRL’s 11th National Conference
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Is plagiarism really a problem?


- At George Washington University, Julie Ryan found, in 1998, that one out of every six students in her classes plagiarized their entire papers.
Is plagiarism really a problem?

- A 1999 study by the Center for Academic Integrity found that 69% of instructors find one or more instances of plagiarism each year.
A recent study reported in the Chronicle of Higher Education in July 2002 found:

- 80% of students use Internet search engines for every or most assignments.
- 50% of the students said that information on the web is not sufficient for their assignments.
Is plagiarism really a problem?

The internet seems to make plagiarism more of a problem than it was in the past.
Why do students plagiarize?

- To save time.
- Strong pressure to get good grades.
- General approval of ‘minor’ dishonesties by our modern society.
- Leniency of professors
- Poor time management skills
Many students claim to be unaware that not citing works from the internet is plagiarism.

Many students claim to be unaware that “cutting and pasting” from the internet without proper citation is plagiarism.

Many students believe the internet is public domain and that web pages do not have to be cited.
Why do students plagiarize?

Students don’t understand plagiarism and citation ‘rules.’