To take the words or ideas of someone else and present them as your own is plagiarism and is unacceptable in academic life. The nature and causes of plagiarism may cover a range from the accidental to the dishonest. Examples of plagiarism encountered in academic writing may include the following:

--incorporating into your own writing, without proper acknowledgment, words and sentences from a print, electronic, or oral source

--inserting longer passages (such as four or five consecutive sentences or whole paragraphs) of somebody else’s writing into your own without acknowledgement

--paraphrasing so closely or so extensively from a source that sentences and ideas really belong to the original writer

--submitting as your own whole essays written by another person or taken from a printed source or off the internet

--receiving so much help from another person that the work could not honestly be called your own.

Students, by their attendance here, agree to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct which states, in part, that “academic dishonesty, to include cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college” may bring disciplinary action. The policy of the NSCC English faculty is to exercise its professional judgment as to the nature and cause of each case of suspected or proven plagiarism and to respond in a manner suited to the case. Responses may include the following:

1) requiring that a piece of writing be revised to eliminate the plagiarism

2) denying credit for a piece of writing in which plagiarism has been found

3) recording a “0” grade in the student’s class record for this project, thereby lowering the student’s final grade

Seattle Community College District VI complies with all Washington state anti-discrimination laws (chapter 49.60 RCW), and the following federal law relating to equal opportunity: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992.

Updated: April 5, 2004