



University of
South Australia

Useful links

Copyright Website

[https://www.library.unisa.edu.au/
copyright/](https://www.library.unisa.edu.au/copyright/)

Academic Integrity

[https://i.unisa.edu.au/staff/teaching-
innovation-unit/tiu/academic-integrity/](https://i.unisa.edu.au/staff/teaching-innovation-unit/tiu/academic-integrity/)

[Plagiarism vs Copyright image](#) reused under [CC BY-SA 3.0](#) licence.

CRICOS Provider Number 00121B

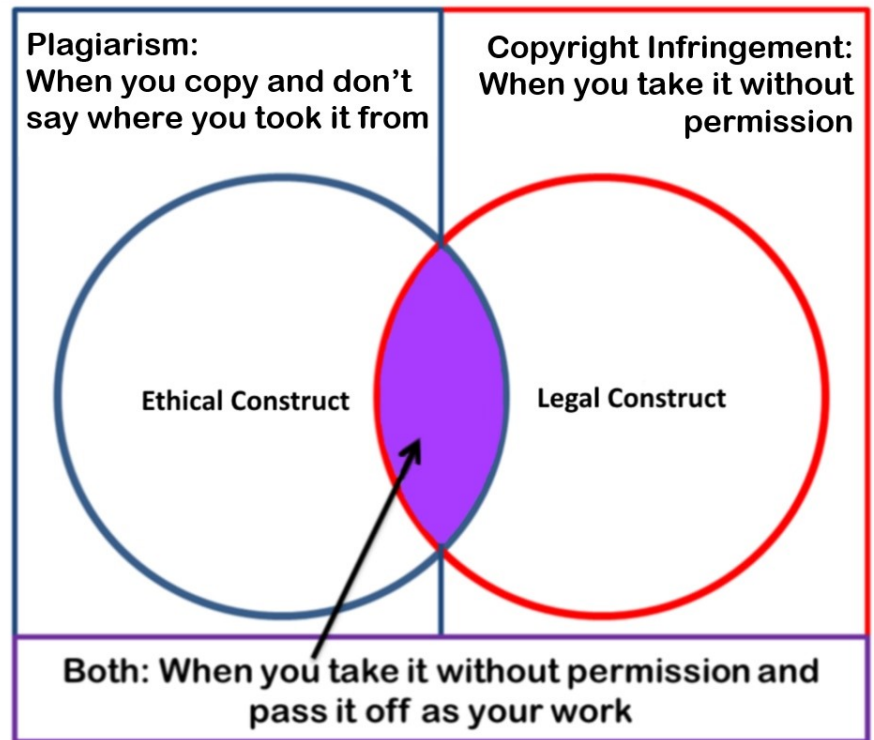


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Plagiarism vs Copyright



Do you know the difference?



What is the difference between plagiarism and copyright?

Plagiarism is the act of claiming ownership or credit for work that is not yours or using someone else's work without proper attribution.

Under the University's **Assessment: policies and procedures manual**, https://i.unisa.edu.au/contentassets/426fa6e325574978a8c953f29e3c2ecf/appm_2018.pdf

plagiarism is defined as:

- a. **directly copying** any material from electronic or print resources without acknowledging the source
- b. **closely paraphrasing** sentences or whole passages without referencing the original work
- c. **submitting another student's work** in whole or in part, unless this is specifically allowed in the course outline
- d. **using** another person's ideas, work or research data **without acknowledgment**
- e. **appropriating or imitating** another's ideas unless this is specifically allowed in the course outline.

Copyright, on the other hand, is a set of legal rules designed to balance the right of creators to benefit financially and/or intellectually from their work with the rights of users to make use of those works. Infringement occurs if you use someone else's work or a substantial part of their work without permission or in one of the ways exclusively reserved for the Copyright owner.

Copying too much from a book or using that copy for an **unauthorised purpose**, even if you have attributed it, will **breach copyright**.

Copying even a small amount of text from a book which is out of copyright but not acknowledging what you have copied is **plagiarism** but will **not constitute a breach of copyright**.

Copyright violation and plagiarism both represent a violation of university policy. It is vital that you understand the importance of these policies and if you are uncertain to seek assistance (see overleaf).

Why is copyright important?

Copyright protects the **expression** of ideas in a material form, such as a book, painting, sound recording or film.

Under copyright law, copyright owners have a number of exclusive **economic rights** to control how their work is used. These include the right to:

1. reproduce their work in any format, including electronically
2. publish their work
3. perform or communicate their work
4. make adaptations of their work

Copyright owners also have **moral rights**. These rights include the right of the creator:

1. to be attributed as the author of any work they create;
2. not to have their work falsely credited to someone else;
3. not to have their work subject to derogatory treatment (also known as the right of integrity).

As a user of copyright material, you also have rights. For works copied and communicated in Australia, the Australian Copyright Act sets out:

1. What types of works you can copy
2. How much of a work you can copy
3. How you can share what you copy

For example, the exceptions for research and study allow you to reproduce:

- a. up to 10% or one chapter of a book for your personal and non-commercial use
- b. up to a single article from a journal for your personal and non-commercial use
- c. the whole of an image with a correct attribution to the owner

Using someone else's work or a substantial part of their work without permission or in one of the ways exclusively reserved for the Copyright owner can result in a copyright infringement claim.