Acknowledging Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism
Why Bother Using Sources Responsibly?

- Avoid Plagiarism
  - Give credit where credit is due
  - Allow reader to find and pursue your research
  - Build your own credibility
So What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism:
-presenting the ideas or language of someone else as if they were your own, without acknowledging the initial source or by doing so improperly.
How to Avoid Plagiarism:

- Appropriate Citation
- Research Management
- Proper Integration
Appropriate Citations: When to Acknowledge a Source (or Not)

NEED to cite:
- Any idea, particular language, sound, visual art, screenshot, map, drawing, etc. that you borrowed in print or online.

NEED NOT cite:
- Common knowledge
- Well-known quotes
- Original photos or coined phrases

When in doubt, CITE!
Research Management: Keeping Track of Sources

- Take Careful Notes
- Keep Track of Source Materials
- Maintain a Working Bibliography
Integrating Sources Properly: Quoting, Paraphrasing, and Summarizing

- **Quoting**
  - When the author said it just right

- **Paraphrasing**
  - Explain the author’s idea in your own words

- **Summarizing**
  - Condense the author’s points
New York Times

“Among the gems in that material are drawings for Wright’s Fallingwater, a home cantilevered over a stream in Mill Run, Pa.; the Robie House, a Prairie-style building on the University of Chicago campus.”

Spectator

“Among the University’s future collection are the famous original drawings for Wright’s Fallingwater, a home designed amid a rushing stream in Pennsylvania, and the Robie House, a Prairie-style building on the campus of the University of Chicago.”
Intentional Plagiarism

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Further Resources on Plagiarism and Source Use

• Purdue Online Writing Lab
• University of Wisconsin Writing Center
• Center for Online Education
• Plagiarism.org
• Community College of Rhode Island Writing Center
For more help, visit the UAB University Writing Center

www.uab.edu/writingcenter

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