

ACADEMIC HONESTY CONTRACT FOR DR. DARNELL'S CLASSES

Aristotle believed that we are persuaded by three artistic proofs. One of these proofs is *ethos*, or the ethical character of a speaker. This class is based upon full and just ethical treatment of all academic work. It is not enough to speak well, but you must also be a good and upstanding person as you speak, to paraphrase Quintilian.

To not be ethical in your scholastic work is to be academically dishonest. Academic dishonesty is a broad topic that entails many unethical education practices, of which plagiarism is the most well known yet most misunderstood. Plagiarism is a term that many of you may have heard of and even participated in, unknowingly. Therefore, let me define for you what I consider to be plagiarism and what I **will not tolerate** in this course. Specifically, the word plagiarism comes from the Greek *plagiarius* meaning *an abductor or plunderer*, and *plagiare* meaning *to steal*. Plagiarism is the knowledgeable and specific use of another's work while claiming that work to be your own original thoughts, ideas and work

To avoid instances of academic dishonesty, be sure to review the academic dishonesty policy at Columbia in the Undergraduate Catalog. For this course, the following practices constitute academic dishonesty:

- Reusing academic work from other courses without my consent.
- Using another person's work with or without his or her permission.
- Cheating on examinations.
- Using group-produced work as individual work.
- Falsification of information, which includes creating or citing sources for which bibliographic information and/or physical copies cannot be provided upon request.
- Plagiarism in any and all forms. This includes:
 - Copying another's work verbatim or failing to give appropriate credit to another for an idea, opinion, or theory.
 - Citing sources as original when they were used as support for someone else's work.

You must always cite sources when:

 - *You are quoting another's work.*
 - *You use another's ideas, theories, arguments, and or viewpoints.*
 - *You use statistics, illustrations, or facts from another unless information is commonly known. To avoid questions, choose to cite rather than not to cite.*

I have read this entire plagiarism contract and I understand its content without exception. I agree to fully abide by its guidelines. All writing I submit in this class will be my own. If I use other sources than my own writing, I will clearly notate them and document them in parenthetical citation according to MLA style guidelines. I understand that submitting any writing with my name on it indicates it to be my own. Any instance of dishonesty, no matter the volume, nullifies the entire body of work. I understand that if I use writing from any source and submit it as my own, I will be in violation of this course's policy and the ethical cornerstone of higher education, and as such, this plagiarism will result in a grade of "o" being issued for the offending assignment and a grade of "o" for course participation.

Student Signature

Date

Printed Name