# Preparation of Evidence for Cases Involving Alleged Plagiarism

The Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) receives each year many cases of alleged plagiarism. In such cases, members of COAM find it very helpful when the evidence of plagiarism is presented in a consistent manner and format. Thus, COAM has prepared the following suggestions to help you prepare and present evidence involving alleged plagiarism. If you have any questions regarding the information in this document, please feel free to call COAM's administrative office (2-7262) or visit our web site (http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html) for assistance.

#### Student's paper

We prefer that you send us the student's entire, original paper, although a complete photocopy (one-sided copies are preferred) is acceptable. If you do send us the student's original paper and the student requests that his/her work be returned, provide the student with a photocopy. It is not necessary to send a "marked" (see below) and an unmarked copy of the student's paper.

#### Alleged source(s)

Photocopy (one-sided copies are preferred) or print the pages containing the alleged source material. If you are printing web pages, please make sure that the entire width of the web page prints. If the entire width does not print, set your printer to landscape mode (File/Page Setup/Landscape). If the alleged source contains multiple pages, you need to print (or send us) only the first page (or title page) of the source (even if it contains no source material) and those pages that contain material that was allegedly plagiarized; if the alleged source contains 50 pages, but only one of the pages was allegedly plagiarized, COAM is interested in seeing only the title page and the one page that contains the alleged source material.

## Marking the student's paper and alleged source(s)

Please mark clearly the similarities between the student's paper and alleged source(s). Such markings are very helpful to COAM when reviewing the documentation. These markings are also very helpful to the student who is charged with plagiarism, as they show the student those sections of his/her work that are problematic. There are a number of ways to do this (examples follow), and we hope that you will find the following suggestions helpful.

Probably the simplest and quickest method is to simply circle (or bracket) and number the similar passages in the student's paper and source material (see examples on following pages). If there are multiple passages in the student's

paper and/or multiple resources, just number everything consecutively. Since we do not have a color photocopier, you can use a black pen or felt-tip marker. You may also underline the alleged source material (black preferred) and number as above.

If you prefer to use a colored highlighter, please use a single color throughout the student's paper and alleged sources and number the similar passages as above (consecutively). Please note that some colors do not photocopy well, and we do not have a color copier. Thus, we prefer that you use a color that photocopies well (appears gray when copied in black and white), such as orange or lavender. Please avoid using colors that do not photocopy well (i.e., dark green, yellow).

The following pages were copied from The Ohio State University's entry in Wikipedia (wikipedia.org).

The various pages provide notes on and examples of how an alleged source might be marked.

# **Ohio State University**

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The Ohio State University (OSU) is a cond Title (front page) of alleged source. public research university in the Please include even if this page university was for unive-contains no source material. Unite U.S. I univer the Un - states.[5] Ohio universi state is

both within Ohio and butside of its

borders to be the flagship institution of the state public system of higher education<sup>[6]</sup> and has been officially designated as such in the newly centralize

University System of Ohio. [7][8][9]

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### The Ohio State University



Motto: Disciplina in civitatem

(Latin, "Education for

Citizenship")

Established

Type:

1870

Public Land Grant

Flagship

Sea Grant

**Endowment:** US \$2.02 billion[1]

President: Gordon Gee [2]

Staff: 5,202 academic faculty, 19,277

> non-academic staff (not including students)

Students: 52,568 (Columbus), 60,347 (all

campuses)

Undergraduates: 38,479 (Columbus), 46,690 (all

campuses)

Postgraduates: 13,339 (Columbus), 13,657 (all

campuses)[3]

Location Columbus, Ohio, United States

Campus: 1,755 acres (7 km<sup>2</sup>) Columbus

campus

15,311 acres (62 km<sup>2</sup>) total

(Urban)

19 men and 20 women varsity Athletics:

teams

Colors: Scarlet and Gray

Nickname: Buckeyes

Mascot:

Brutus Buckeye

Website: www.osu.edu

(http://www.osu.edu/)

Colleges of the Arts and Sciences (http://arts-

School of Communication (http://li>

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source material. they contain no This is page 6 of the alleged School of Music (http://m

Graduate School (http://www.

John Glenn School

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included since they contain no alleged source material.

Campus

Main campu.



.edu/)

Drinko Hall: Home of The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law

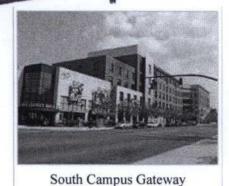


Ohio State's main urban campus is located in Columbus. Its 1,755 acres (7 km²) are approximately 2.5 miles north of the city's downtown. Four buildings are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places Enarson Hall, Hayes Hall, Ohio Stadium, and Orton Hall. Architecture on the Ohio State campus does not conform to a unifying theme such as Gothic revival or Georgian but rather is an eclectic mix of traditional, modern and post-modern styles.

Examples of circled, bracketed and underlined source material. The student's paper should be marked The William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library in a similar manner. western end of The Oval, is the Ohio State 1i1 and single largest repository. The Thom ae Boston firm of Allen and Collens in the Italianate Renaissance on the Oval was suggested by the Olmstead brothers who had designed N ык. In 2006, the Thompson Library began a \$100 million dollar renovation with secoming a "global benchmark twentyfirst century" library while maintaining the bu. sical Italian Renaissance architecture [34] Overall, Ohio State operates the 18th largest un. ay research library in North America with a combined collection of over 5.8 million volumes. Additionally, the libraries receive approximately 5,000 serial titles on a regular basis. Its recent acquisitions were 16th among university research libraries in North America. [35] Ohio State's library system encompasses twenty-one libraries located on

its Columbus campus. An additional eight branches are located at off-campus research facilities, regional campuses, and a book storage depository near campus. In all the Ohio State library system encompasses fifty-five branches and specialty collections. Some of the more significant collections include The Byrd Polar Research Center Archival Program containing the Archives of Admiral Richard E. Byrd as well as a significant collection of polar research materials. The Hilandar Research Library which contains the world's largest collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microform, The Ohio State Cartoon Research Library, which is the world's largest repository of original cartoons, The Lawrence and Lee Theatre Research Institute and the archives of Senator John Glenn.

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Honors

Dhio State offers two distinct honors programs for high ability

indergraduates: Honors and Scholars. The Honors program is open to students in all majors. The holars program is centered around thirteen specific programs such as "Architecture Scholars", Communication Technology Scholars", "International Affairs Scholars" and "Politics, Society and Law cholars." Students in the Scholars program are expected to live and take select classes with other bers of the program. Additionally, Ohio State offers the Honors Collegium with membership extended following the Spring of a student's first or second year to the university's top undergraduates. ol egium students try to compete for internships, graduate schools and nationally competitive grands, uch as the Marshall, Rhodes, or Truman Scholarships.

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Rhodes Scholarships.

counties.

Ohio State also administers two large-scale scholarship programs high-ability students from low-income or traditionally underre oung Scholars Program, was initiated in 1988, 120 promis largest urban public school districts are selected prior to enter series of academic camps each summer and counseling through Upon completion of the program, which also mandates a college prograde point average, the students are guaranteed admission to Ohio State financial aid necessary. The Land Grant Scholarship was initiated in 2005. This program seeks to ensure access to Ohio State to high-ability students from low-income backgrounds. Ohio State has committed

well as any need-based to offering a full-ride scholarship each academic year to at least one student from each of Ohio's 88

Ohio State maintains an honors center in the Kuhn Honors and Scholars House on the South Oval. Until e 1960s this building had served as the university President's residence. Five dormitories are esignated as honors residences.

Activities and organizations

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