

What is Urkund?

Linköping University uses Urkund, which is a tool for detecting plagiarism. Written work, e.g. student theses, can be sent to Urkund where they are automatically checked against a large database of student reports and other sources from Swedish universities and from the internet. It is the teacher who decides if the theses has to be sent to Urkund and in the end, decides whether there are strong grounds for plagiarism suspicions.



Consequences

What happens if you plagiarize?

When there is a suspicion of plagiarism, the case is forwarded to the University Disciplinary Board. If subsequent investigation shows that the student has plagiarized, the punishment can be a warning or expulsion for up to 6 months (Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 10).



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Pictures:

Ulf Lindgren

Britt Forssmed



Linköping University Library
SE-581 83 Linköping
Email: plagiering@bibl.liu.se
www.bibl.liu.se

Copyright and plagiarism



A brief overview of how you
avoid plagiarizing

Linköping University Library
www.bibl.liu.se/upphovsratt-och-plagiering



What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism results from presenting someone else's ideas or work (in whole or in part) as one's own. "Work" can refer to text, figures, photographs, pictures, sounds, video, etc.

Examples of plagiarism:

- * To submit someone else's work in whole or in part as one's own.
- * To not *give a reference* when one:
 - Copies phrases, sentences or paragraphs from someone else's work;
 - Re-writes text from someone else's work in one's own words;
 - Uses someone else's ideas, theories, methods or data;
 - Copies (including modifying) someone else's figures, pictures or tables;
 - Copies from a computer programme, musical score, video or sound clip.

When paraphrasing someone else's work, one must be careful to truly paraphrase and not just make minor changes. For example:

- * If one only changes a few words with synonyms;
- * Makes very minor changes and does not use quotation marks;
- * If one translates to another language without clearly specifying so.

Even if one has paraphrased or used quotation marks and referenced correctly, it is unacceptable to base a substantial portion of a report on someone else's work. The purpose of using other people's material is as support to your own arguments.

What is copyright?

Copyright deals with the right to reproduce someone else's work. Note that even if one gives credit for someone else's work (and hence avoids plagiarizing), one is not necessarily allowed to use the work in a report due to copyright restrictions. In this case "work" incorporates text, figures, photographs etc. including material found on the internet.

How does one avoid plagiarism?

Throughout the entire writing process you need to reference your external sources. Citations (text included in quotation marks) must be identical to the original text. Work can also be paraphrased, i.e., re-written in your own words. In both cases a full reference to the source must be given. Note, however, that even giving a reference does not necessarily remove copyright restrictions which limit using someone else's material (particularly figures).

No Plagiat

Do you want to know your skills about plagiarizing and copyright? Try the self-study tutorial No Plagiat.

noplagiat.bibl.liu.se



Writing references

When one writes references one has the choice of many systems, for example, Harvard or Oxford. In the Harvard system, one gives the authors' names and the year of publication in brackets. A full reference is then given in a reference list. In the Oxford system, one puts a number in the text, which refers to a footnote and/or a full reference in a bibliography.

For more information on referencing, see the libraries web pages.

