



Graduate School

GUIDELINES ON PLAGIARISM SANCTIONS

Introduction

Plagiarism is defined as the "use, without giving reasonable and appropriate credit to or acknowledging the author or source, of another person's original work, whether such work is made up of code, formulas, ideas, language, research, strategies, writing or other form"¹.

¹ = [^ "What is Plagiarism". Stanford University. 2012-07-27](#)

The IMM Graduate School of Marketing (IMM GSM) divides plagiarism into three categories namely:-

1. Plagiarism from **textual / internet sources** such as:
 - a. Incorrect Harvard Referencing.
 - b. Presenting someone else's work as your own – *The core content is clearly similar to that of another source.*
 - c. Paraphrasing someone else's work and presenting it as your own - *The core content is clearly similar to that of another source, where the wording was changed in an attempt to make it seem original.*
2. Plagiarism from **another student or group** also referred to as **syndication**
 - a. Voluntary Syndication – *A student / group submits work that is similar / identical to another student / group, or work that contains selected passages that are identical, but this is due to the student / group having worked together and failed to present the work as their own.*
 - b. Involuntary Syndication – *A student / group having appropriated the work from another student / group without the other student / group knowledge or collusion*

Guidelines

- When this document refers to the student losing 20% of the assignment mark, or 50% of the assignment mark, it means that if the original assignment was awarded 60%; then the student assignment will be reduced to 48% (less 20% rule), and reduced to 30% (less 50% rule).
- The total number of offences are calculated as the number of offences during the full period of registration with the IMM GSM – regardless of the programme or year of study.
- Refunds - The only fees which will be refunded are any fees in excess of the fees paid for the semester during which a student is suspended or disenrolled.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

1. Plagiarism from textual / internet sources

a. Harvard Referencing

Category	Sanction	
	1 st Offence	2 nd Offence
Incorrectly done	Warning letter	0% for the assignment

b. Presenting someone else's work as your own

Category	Sanction	
	1 st Offence	2 nd Offence
Content plagiarised	Assignment mark less 50%	0% for the assignment

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS (continued)

c. Paraphrasing someone else's work and presenting it as your own

Category	Sanction	
	1 st Offence	2 nd Offence
Content paraphrased	Assignment mark less 50%	0% for the assignment

2. Plagiarism from another student / group

a. Voluntary Syndication

Category	Sanction	
	1 st Offence	2 nd Offence
a) Student can present proof of own work	a) Assignment mark less 20%	a) 0% for the assignment
b) Student cannot present proof of own work	b) Assignment mark less 50%	b) 0% for the assignment

b. Involuntary Syndication

Category	Sanction	
	1 st Offence	2 nd Offence
a) Student did not collude with clear evidence of innocence	a) Award full mark	a) 0% for the assignment
b) Student appropriated the work of others	b) 0% for assignment	b) Suspension for 3 semesters
c) Student did not attend inquiry: Guilty in absentia	c) 0% for assignment	c) Suspension for 3 semesters

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Category	Sanction	
	1 st Offence	2 nd Offence
30%+ of content plagiarised regardless of the category	0% for the module. Re-register for the module	Suspension for 3 semesters

THIRD OFFENCES FOR ALL STUDENTS

Category	Sanction
Third offence of plagiarism (as a total during all years of study at IMM GSM)	Disenrollment