What is plagiarizing?

- "Using someone else's work in your assignment without appropriate acknowledgement."
- "Making slight variations in the language and then failing to give credit to the source." (from UTA Scholastic Dishonesty at http://www2.uta.edu/discipline/text_aca_integrity.htm)

For more information about plagiarism, see http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_plagiar.html

What are the consequences of Plagiarism at UTA?
One may get a failing grade on the assignment, failing grade in the course, probation, suspension, or even expulsion from UTA. See http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/
When writing a research paper, one must include outside sources for credibility. But when including sources, one must acknowledge these outside sources.

When should you acknowledge a source?
Look at the four scenarios below for help.

Scenario 1

Using the exact text (quoting directly) from another source in your research paper

Taking the exact words (quoting directly) from someone else’s speech and putting these in your research paper

Must Quote and Cite

Scenario 2

Using common knowledge in your research paper. This information is known to the general public. The earth is round can be considered common knowledge. You can find this information in multiple locations and it is not cited or quoted in any of these locations

Using your own ideas in your research paper

No Quote Needed. No Cite Needed
Scenario 3

Using pictures from another source in your research paper
(from www.abcnews.com)

Using graphs from another source in your research paper
(from http://www-k12.atmos.washington.edu/k12/mars/LOPS_Pathfinder_temperatures.cgi/plot1)

Using tables from another source in your research paper
(from http://atmos.nmsu.edu/education_and_outreach/encyclopedia/atmospheric_parameters.htm)

Paraphrasing or summarizing or using ideas from someone else’s speech and putting these in your research paper
(from Microsoft Office clipart)

Must Cite, but No Quote Needed

Scenario 4

Turning whole papers or articles in as your own even though you did not write them—whether buying or borrowing them.
(from http://www.007termpapers.com/)

Don’t Use
The whole paper would have to be quoted and cited, which would tell a professor that you did not write a word of it.
You Must Quote... when you are using the exact text from the original source. To quote, enclose words, phrases, sentences taken directly from the original source in quotation marks if short or indented if longer. Quoting is used when it is important to have the exact text from the original source in a research paper for meaning or clarity.

You Do Not Need to Quote... when you paraphrase the original source. When you take the original text and put it in your own words. If one includes any unique words from the text, one will need to enclose them in quotation marks.

You Do Not Need to Quote... when you summarize the original source. When you take the original text and put just the main ideas into your own words.

You Must Cite... when you are quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing, or using any ideas, pictures, graphs, etc that are not your own or are not common knowledge. When you cite, you acknowledge the original source from where the information came. When citing, use a citation.

Citation --- In a citation, you will give enough information so that someone else can find the same original source material. A citation usually includes title, author, and information about the publication.


Style manual --- The format of a citation differs depending on what style manual is used. Different majors and fields use different style manuals. Check with your professor to find out which style manual to use.


For more information on quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing, see [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_quotprsum.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_quotprsum.html)

See [http://library.uta.edu/Main/howTo.utah](http://library.uta.edu/Main/howTo.utah) for help with style manuals like MLA, APA, Turabian, and Chicago.