

Notice on Literature Citation and References when Writing Academic Papers

When writing academic papers such as doctoral theses, master's theses, articles for submission to a journal, etc., if you quote or refer to the work of other authors, please always clearly cite or reference all such works. As noted in the Study Guide of Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, the failure to clearly and properly cite or reference such works is referred to as plagiarism and, regardless of the degree of severity, is subject to disciplinary action. In addition, as a consequence, there is the possibility that program completion will be delayed and even that granted degrees will be rescinded.

At the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies (GSAPS), students are repeatedly alerted to the problem of plagiarism, beginning with orientation programs at the time of admission. However, unfortunately, submissions to the “Journal of the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies” with omitted or inappropriate citations or references have repeatedly been discovered.

GSAPS uses software that analyzes the degree of similarity between documents to confirm if improper citations or references have been made. With recent advances in digital technology, plagiarism check software has become so sophisticated that attempts at deceit will be discovered even when slight changes are made.

This is not to indicate that writers should not quote or refer to other works. The problem is that the rules of citation and reference are not followed. In writing an academic paper, it is natural that citations and references will be used, and if citation and reference rules are followed, there is no problem. Students are asked to increase their awareness of this issue and to actively publish their research while following these rules and being careful to always properly cite and reference the works of other authors. If unsure about these rules, please contact your faculty advisor, academic advisor, or the faculty in charge of your courses.

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