

HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM

Avoiding plagiarism is a priority for the entire Sciences Po community and the library is keen to help you steer clear of any mistakes. The first thing you should do is read the university's [anti-plagiarism regulations](#). As a student, you have agreed to comply with Sciences Po's academic rules and regulations, which specify that:

"Plagiarism is deemed to have occurred when a student's ideas as expressed in his or her work cannot be distinguished from those of other authors. It may be constituted by any of the following: clusters of consecutive words (five or more) without citation, paraphrasing, translation and verbatim copying." (Article 12: Intellectual integrity)

So ignorance is no excuse: you're expected to know what plagiarism is and it's your responsibility to avoid it.

To do so, it is essential to cite all sources correctly in your work, as stated in the regulations. As well as demonstrating your academic rigour and respect for the moral and intellectual rights of the authors, referencing your exact sources allows your readers to verify the information you provide.

If you fail to cite your sources or cite them incorrectly, you are in danger of committing plagiarism. Here are some tips on how to avoid doing so:

- [Copier coller, attention au plagiat](#) (FR), Université Paris-Saclay
- [How to make sure you don't plagiarize](#), InfoTrack

If you want to test your understanding of plagiarism, [take the quiz](#) (FR) offered by the Réseau de l'Université du Québec.

Like other higher education institutions, Sciences Po uses a computer program to detect plagiarism in students' work. It's called Urkund:

Plagiarism is suspected when Urkund detects five words in a row in the body of a student's work that are taken from another source and have not been correctly cited according to the rules set out in the appendix.

The main principles of copyright law are summarised in this document :

[Respect the copyright](#) (bilingual), Sciences Po library

And [this Moodle](#) (FR) training course will help you familiarise yourself with its different aspects (intellectual property, copyright, property law, moral rights).

Finally, if you would like to know more about image credits and how to respect copyright for illustrations, check out the [summary](#) written by our iconographer colleague. You can also contact her with any specific questions you may have through [her guide](#).