

Helping International Students Use Sources Responsibly

Teach citation very carefully.

You do your students a disservice if you do not require them to use proper citation. Since many international students have been taught to incorporate outside texts into their papers verbatim, without citation, they need to be taught how to format and present outside sources.

To help them develop this skill:

- Require an outline with planned and cited source material.
- Provide feedback during the drafting stage regarding how to present evidence and cite it.
- Workshop a student paragraph as a class in order to show how evidence should be presented and cited.
- Assign a plagiarism tutorial and discuss answers as a class:
<http://abacus.bates.edu/cbb/index8698.html?q=node/60>.
- Assign section 28 (“Managing information; avoiding plagiarism”) and the style section (MLA/APA/Chicago/CSE) relevant to your course in the Hacker guide as a reading assignment; test comprehension with a short quiz or homework exercise.
- Require students to review final drafts of both in-text citations and Works Cited pages with a reference librarian.
- Assign or visit the Writing Center’s “Plagiarism and Citation” webpage; note the document at the end—“Plagiarism in the U.S.”—especially.