



The Cut n' Paste Generation

Preventing Plagiarism in UCD

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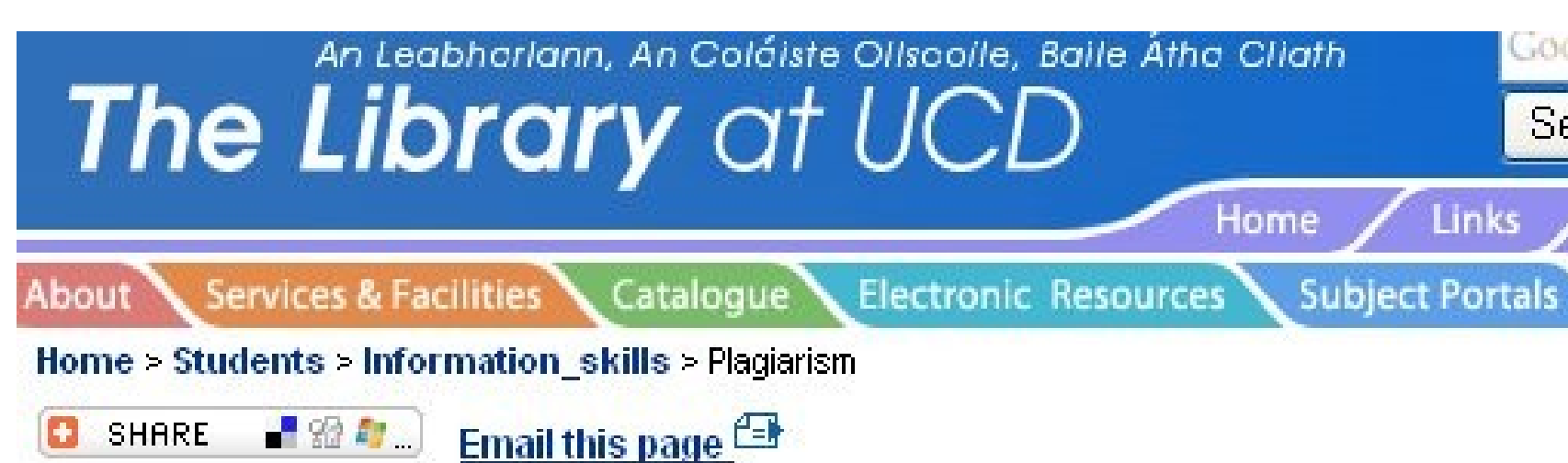
Plagiarism – a 21st century scourge

Plagiarism is an issue which is of increasing concern in the modern university. Accusations of plagiarism affect the reputation of the university, and the degrees it confers.

- Plagiarism is defined by the act, not the intention.
- The responsibility for avoiding it rests with the student.

UCD Library and plagiarism

Staff in UCD Library take an active part in educating students about plagiarism - providing advice, giving classes and designing web pages



Plagiarism

PLAGIARISM is using others ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information.



In the preparation of essays and projects, we continually engage with other people's ideas: we read them in books, hear them in lectures, discuss them in class. When we begin to write essays, and incorporate these ideas into our own writing, it is very important that we give credit where it is due.

This page outlines what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Alternatively, test your knowledge by doing this [Online Tutorial](#) devised by Acadia University (Canada) it takes about 10 minutes

Online Plagiarism Quiz

- Embedded in the VLE, Blackboard.
- Piloted with the School of Sociology.
- 10 questions and answers devised around the basic components of plagiarism and how to avoid it.

Test your knowledge

Which of the following is **not** common knowledge and so needs to be cited?

- The events of September 11th, 2001 were the result of co-ordinated terrorist attacks and led, indirectly, to U.S military involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq.
- JK Rowling is the author of the Harry Potter book series.
- President Kennedy vowed to put man on the moon in a speech in Texas in 1962.

Remember- Common knowledge varies depending on discipline, culture and generation.

Being relevant and informed

The online quiz is being customised to support every discipline and students at all levels – be they first years, international students or at fourth level

- We use current examples, e.g. YouTube clips – to illustrate plagiarism in the music industry, in politics, and beyond
- We keep up-to-date with new developments through email lists international conferences and courses



1st years:

- This quiz was not compulsory as students have so much to take in, in the first few weeks of university. However students were strongly encouraged to complete the quiz before submitting their first assignment.
- 86% of 520 registered students completed the quiz.

2nd years:

- This quiz was compulsory.
- 98% of 120 registered students completed the quiz before submitting their first assignment.
- Incidents of plagiarism dropped from 10% to 1%
- Students averaged 3 attempts to get a 100% mark