



## A. Research misconduct

1. Research misconduct may occur at a personal level, research project level or as a failure to comply with regulatory requirements. Examples of research misconduct under these categories include:
  - a. at a personal level:
    - i. deception in proposing, carrying out or reporting the results of research;
    - ii. falsification or misrepresentation of application information, ethics or Research Proposals or academic records;
    - iii. failure to identify and declare serious conflicts of interest;
    - iv. wilful concealment or facilitation of research misconduct by others.
  - b. at research project level:
    - i. presentation or collection of data that has been copied, plagiarised, falsified, fabricated or in other ways obtained improperly;
    - ii. inclusion of material in individual work that has involved significant assistance from another person, where its inclusion is not permitted by the other person;
    - iii. risking the safety of human participants, or the wellbeing of animals.
  - c. breaching rules that govern research:
    - i. conducting research without ethics approval as required by the [National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research](#) and the [Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes](#);
    - ii. plagiarism (refer clause B);
    - iii. failure to comply with the University's [Authorship policy](#);
    - iv. deviations from the [Australian Code for Responsible Conduct of Research](#) that occur through gross or persistent negligence.
2. Research misconduct does not include honest differences in judgement in management of the research project and may not include honest errors that are minor or unintentional.
3. A complaint or allegation may result in a finding of research misconduct if it involves the following:
  - a. a breach of the [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) (Australian Code)
  - b. intent and deliberation, recklessness or gross and persistent negligence
  - c. serious consequences, such as false information on the public record, or adverse effects on research participants, animals or the environment.

## **B. Plagiarism**

4. Plagiarism is a specific form and serious act of misconduct. It is the use of another person's words or ideas as if they were one's own. Plagiarism may occur as a result of lack of understanding and/or inexperience about the correct way to acknowledge and reference sources. It may result from poor academic practice, which may include poor note-taking, careless downloading of material, or failure to take sufficient care in meeting the required standards. It may also occur as a deliberate misuse of the work of others with the intent to deceive. It may include, but is not restricted to:
  - a. using another person's ideas, work, product or research data without acknowledgment, or
  - b. arranging for someone else to undertake all or part of a piece of work and presenting that work as one's own.

## **C. Use of text comparison software**

1. As part of the University's procedures for identifying instances of plagiarism, any work that is submitted by a research degree student may be subjected to testing using text comparison software. It is a condition of enrolment in a research degree program that research degree students give their consent to this process.
2. As part of the Statement of Agreement with the supervisor, the research degree student is required to sign the following statement appearing within the Agreement:

“The research degree student authorises any written material submitted to be tested by the University for plagiarism, using text comparison software. This involves the University or its contractor copying work submitted by the research degree student and storing it on a database to be used in future to test work submitted by others.”

