

FYS 16: Intellectual Honesty

Please review the webpage on Academic Honesty:

<https://www.amherst.edu/campuslife/deanstudents/acadhonesty>,

including Amherst's Statement on Intellectual Responsibility.

As a matter of policy, I refer all cases of suspected plagiarism to the Office of the Dean of Students and abide by their recommendations. Proved plagiarism entails failure in the course. When in doubt about whether or how to cite sources, please consult me.

With well-known ancient texts, it can be tricky to decide what constitutes common knowledge (e.g., dates, large historical developments) and what constitutes interpretation that should be credited to a particular author. For the purposes of the essays in this course, the material in the study questions and in class discussion can be taken as common knowledge; other sources should be cited.

The assignments are designed not to require or encourage the use of secondary sources, including those on the Internet, which vary greatly in reliability. Browsing the Internet while planning an essay can expose the writer to a mass of information whose origin may become untraceable, but may be easily spotted by a professional in the field, or blur the writer's sense of whether an idea "came from somewhere."

If you need more background or need to break through an impasse in writing, contact me.