

THE Researcher

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TTPC Promotes Academic Excellence

Inside our new normal

The development of TTPC as a centre of research and academic excellence is dependent on strengthening our current best practices. As we intensify the zero-tolerance policy on academic misconduct, the penalty for plagiarism will range from you receiving **a mark of 0 to an academic detention.**

The Library, in collaboration with the Office of Research & Planning and the Vice Principal-Academics will provide the technical and resource support for staff and student development in APA intensives. These tools and techniques will sharpen your skills to compete in the educational landscape.

Our commitment to “Excellence, Innovation and Creativity” remains the fuel that shapes our greatness.



***AT TTPC WE
DO NOT
COPY, WE
LEAD!***

**They say imitation is
the best form of
flattery but
plagiarism is not.
Misrepresenting the
work of others as
your own is theft,
and will result in
severe
consequences.**

Policy Framework

We are guided by....

The Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica, provides strict guidelines on student academic conduct and capacity building. The policy framework and practices of TTPC also operate within the boundaries of these frames.

The CCCJ defines plagiarism as the “failure to properly acknowledge use of another person’s work, or submitting for assessment, material that is not a student’s own work”; and, “misrepresentation of a piece of group work as the student’s individual work” (p.41).

The above will prompt the following process:

The CCCJ coordinator at TTPC will

- a. Advise the student of infraction
- b. Prepare an incident report
- c. Lodge a report with the TTPC Academic Disciplinary Committee (p.42-43).

Get inside the framework; request a copy of the TTPC Plagiarism policy from the Office of Research & Planning or the Vice Principal-Academics

Ask about the TTPC plagiarism policy

The TTPC plagiarism policy categories of academic theft:

1. Unacknowledged quotes
2. Miscitation
3. Unattributed borrowing
4. Cosmetic paraphrasing
5. Wrong attributed borrowing
6. Collusion

Be in the know, get a copy of the CCCJ and TTPC policy. Ignorance is not a valid excuse.



TTPC's six (6) broad categories of plagiarism:

1. **Unacknowledged quotations** – this is the use of direct quotes, ideas, themes, graphs, diagrams, and theories without properly giving credit to the creator/author. Failure to give proper credit to spoken words is also a breach of proper citing and scholarly responsibilities.
2. **Miscitation** - this is the act of deceptively crediting others for a body of work or quotes. Authors and content creators must be accurately credited for their work, failure to do so violates ethical standards.
3. **Unattributed borrowing** - this is the failure to credit the author/creator when paraphrasing from their work. Proper credit must be provided even when direct quotes are not being utilized.
4. **Cosmetic paraphrasing** - this breach occurs when an individual credits the author but the words used in the paraphrase are too close to the original quotes. Using synonyms to modify a direct quote is a violation of the institutional policy.
5. **Wrong attributed borrowing** - this breach occurs when an individual fails to acknowledge a body of work that has

inspired his/her own (through structure and idea), but utilizes quotes and diagrams from the original source. If you borrow methods, structure, and ideas to inform your paper; the original document must be acknowledged.

6. **Collusion** – Your assignments should reflect independent study and exploration. If you present a modified/updated version of an assignment presented by a former or present student you have committed a breach.

The Trench Town Polytechnic College Academic Disciplinary Committee constitutes the following members:

- **Vice Principal of Academics (Chairperson)**
- **Vice Principal of Administrative Affairs (Deputy Chairperson)**
- **Campus Registrar**
- **Head of Department (members in this capacity will reflect the leader of the unit of the course where the breach occurred).**
- **Librarian**

The CCCJ and TTPC policies and practices on plagiarism, misconduct and structure are the framework that students must operate within.

Be reminded of your duty to yourself and the institution, always maintain a sound character.

The Library at TTPC remains committed to student development, and will provide the support needed.

Contact: library@trenchtownpolytechnic.edu.jm

OUR NEW NORMAL

The mechanisms and policies implemented are geared towards safeguarding the institution and its stakeholders. We seek to inspire and lead.

Where to direct students?

The Library and Office of Research & Planning serve as a hub for student learning and development and, information specific to APA formatting. These sessions will be ongoing throughout the academic year, complemented by videos and written material.

Be prepared for the culture change.

A good place to start is to visit the internationally recognized resource centre below:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html

The future...

The future of research and academics at TTPC is about surpassing the standard...becoming the standard. The objective is to ensure research and academic responsibility become second nature.

As we aid the human development and education expansion of the nation's citizenry.

Use the resources available to become the best version of yourself. We only succeed if every member of our team is motivated and ready to claim space and soar to greater heights. We are in this together!

Building Capacity: The Need for Collaboration

The success of the research initiatives and by extension the aggressive approach in tackling academic misconduct relies on the combined efforts and holistic support of staff and students. This approach will require insights and suggestions for the success we seek. Fortunately, the precedence has already been set in the pragmatic and innovative approaches in managing COVID-19 and online learning. The academic staff at TTPC is poised and well equipped to aid in the training and monitoring required for the success of our students in using the APA format, as well as avoiding academic theft.

Thank you for maintaining the culture of strong support, as we make strides towards making TTPC a centre of research and academic excellence.

Next Issue: TTPC Research Culture