LAU | Writing Center
Lebanese American University

APA Abstract

An abstract is a brief, comprehensive summary of the research paper. It is a very important part of the paper, as it can be the reader's first contact with the work.

An abstract should be:

- Accurate:
  - It should correctly reflect the purpose and content of the paper.
  - It should **not** include information not available in your paper.
- Non-evaluative

  An abstract should report, not evaluate. This means that it should not comment or add on what it written in the paper.
- Coherent and readable
  - The language needs to be brief and concise.
  - Use verbs rather than nouns (e.g., *investigated* rather than *an investigation*)
  - Use the present tense for conclusions drawn or introductions made
  - Use the past tense for outcomes measured and results reported
- Concise

Typically, an abstract for an IMRaD paper or presentation is one or two paragraphs long (120 – 500 words). Abstracts usually spend:
- 25% of their space on the purpose and importance of the research (Introduction)
- 25% of their space on what the researchers did (Methods)
- 35% of their space on what the researchers found (Results)
- 15% of their space on the implications of the research

Indentation	None
Font & Size	Times New Roman, size 12
Spacing	Double

See the back side for a sample abstract.

Sample Abstract:

<div align="center">**Abstract**</div>

The word abstract is written in the center in bold.

Academic integrity (AI) violations on college campuses con draws public attention. Even though AI has been the subject of numerous studies offering explanations and recommendations, academic dishonesty persists. Consequently, this phenomenon has rekindled interest in understanding AI behavior and its influencers. This paper focuses on the AI violations of plagiarism and sharing homework for freshman business students, examining the factors that influence a student's intention to plagiarize or share homework with others. Using a sample of more than 1300 freshman business students over 2 years, intent to plagiarize and intent to share homework was modeled using factors in the Theory of Planned Behavior in addition to past violation behavior and moral obligation (feelings of guilt). Based on the results of this study, attitude, perceived behavioral control, subjective norm, and in addition past behavior and moral obligation, were found to significantly influence an individual's intention to violate academic integrity, explaining 33 and 35 % of the variance in intention to commit an AI violation for sharing homework and plagiarism, respectively. These results contribute to a better understanding of individuals' motivations for plagiarizing and sharing homework, which is a necessary step toward reducing academic integrity violations.

Keywords Academic integrity and dishonesty, Theory of planned behavior, Past behavior, Moral obligation, Plagiarism

Commented [GD1]: Introduction to the topic and its significance

Commented [GD2]: Purpose

Commented [GD3]: Methods

Commented [GD4]: Results

Commented [GD5]: Implications

The word "Keywords" appears at the end of the abstract in Italics. It is indented.
Choose 3 – 5 words.
These are the most important words in your papers. If someone were to search for your paper online, these are some of the words they might type in the search field.