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Faculty of Exact Sciences
Department of Mathematics
Master 1 – 2025/2026

Course Title: **Scientific English II**

First Class Topic: **Plagiarism**

1. Introduction

Plagiarism is a major issue in academic and scientific writing. At the Master's level, students are expected to uphold academic integrity when writing reports, theses, and research papers. This presentation aims to explain what plagiarism is, its different forms, and how to avoid it in scientific English writing.

2. Definition of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as the use of someone else's ideas, words, data, or results without proper acknowledgment. Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional, but in both cases it is considered academic misconduct.

3. Types of Plagiarism

3.1 Direct Plagiarism

Direct plagiarism occurs when a student copies text word for word from a source without quotation marks or citation.

3.2 Mosaic (Patchwork) Plagiarism

Mosaic plagiarism consists of mixing copied phrases from a source with one's own words without proper citation.

3.3 Paraphrasing Plagiarism

Paraphrasing plagiarism happens when a text is slightly modified by changing a few words but keeping the original structure and meaning without citing the source.

3.4 Self-Plagiarism

Self-plagiarism occurs when an author reuses parts of their own previously published or submitted work without proper reference.

4. Paraphrasing in Scientific English

Good paraphrasing requires changing both the vocabulary and the sentence structure while keeping the original meaning. A correct paraphrase must always include a citation to the original source.

5. Citation and Referencing

Citing sources is essential in academic writing. Common expressions include: ‘According to Smith (2020)...’, ‘Previous studies have shown that...’. References must be listed at the end of the document according to an academic style such as APA or Harvard.

6. Plagiarism Detection Tools

Tools such as Turnitin and iThenticate are commonly used to check text similarity. These tools do not detect plagiarism directly but highlight similarities with existing texts.

7. Consequences of Plagiarism

Plagiarism can lead to serious consequences, including rejection of academic work, revision of theses, loss of credibility, and disciplinary sanctions.

8. Conclusion

Plagiarism is not only a language problem but an ethical issue. Master students must learn how to write scientifically in English while respecting academic integrity.