

Academic Integrity

Being part of an academic community

Narrator:

Now you're at university, you're part of the academic community. The same community as the tutors, lecturers, and researchers at your university and elsewhere.

If you come out with an exciting thought, it's only right that I mention your name when talking about it – so people don't accidentally think that I came up with it myself.

Similarly, if other members of the academic community have worked hard to research and write a book or an article, it's only fair and respectful to acknowledge their ideas.

In fact, this is a key way you can demonstrate scholarship, showing you know which people in your discipline have developed ideas relevant to your work.

In turn, this helps you show how your own work fits within your academic community and disciplinary practice.

Whatever subject you are studying, it only developed because people shared their ideas, knowing their contribution would be acknowledged. If people had to worry that their ideas would be stolen, they would hide them, hindering the subject's development. By building on each other's ideas, we can continue to develop each subject area.

Just imagine if the person who developed penicillin or measures of autism or any key historical findings had been so scared of going uncredited, that they didn't share them at all... where would we be then?