

Department of Biological Sciences PhD Candidacy Exam Honesty Declaration

This form must be completed by the student and returned to the Candidacy Examining Committee Chair prior to initial submission of the written proposal (i.e., by “Week 4”).

I, the undersigned, declare that the initial proposal that I have submitted for my PhD Candidacy Examination in the Department of Biological Sciences is **wholly the product of my own work**, and that no part of it has:

- been copied by manual or electronic means from any work produced by any other person(s) or other source including, but not limited to, textbooks, original scientific manuscripts and web sites
- received feedback or editing from anyone, including tutors or tutoring services

Ignorance regarding what constitutes plagiarism is not an excuse for infringement of the policy on academic integrity. Plagiarizing is taking words or ideas of another person and passing them off as your own. Rearranging or replacing a few words in a sentence or paragraph is not enough to avoid plagiarism. Citing your source allows you to use information from that source but it does not entitle you to use the author’s words without quotation marks. Taking information that has been synthesized by another person (e.g., the introduction of a paper, where an entire field of research has been succinctly reviewed) and passing this synthesis off as your own is also plagiarism. Even if you cite the original author somewhere in your writing, it still constitutes plagiarism if there is no indication that the majority of the synthesized material derives from that source.

I understand that penalties for submitting work which is not wholly my own is considered an act of Academic Dishonesty and is subject to penalty as described by the University of Manitoba’s Student Discipline Bylaw*. Further I am fully informed of the University of Manitoba’s Governance policies on academic dishonesty and student discipline* and the responsibilities of academic staff regarding students at the University of Manitoba.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Student Number: _____ UM Email: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Examining Committee Chair: _____

(*) Penalties that may apply, as provided for under the University of Manitoba’s Student Discipline By-Law, range from a grade of zero for the assignment, failure in the course to expulsion from the University.

The Student Discipline By-Law may be accessed at:

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/student_discipline.html

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