What Is Plagiarism?

Simply stated, plagiarism is using someone's work without giving the appropriate credit. The Delhi College Student Code of Conduct forbids "Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty." Sometimes students think rewriting something is not plagiarism, because they are "putting it in their own words." Well, if the source is not officially acknowledged, IT IS PLAGIARISM.

1. Copying and pasting text or graphics from any web site without quotes and credit is plagiarism.
2. Transcribing text from any printed material, such as books, magazines, encyclopedias or newspapers without acknowledgment, is plagiarism.
3. Simply modifying text from any of the above sources is plagiarism. For example, replacing a few select words using a Thesaurus does not constitute original work.
4. Using photographs, video or audio without permission or acknowledgment is plagiarism. You may use a photographic, video or audio source in a paper or multimedia presentation that you create, as long as you do not profit from it or use it for any purpose other than the original assignment. You must include the source in your bibliography.
5. Using another student's work and claiming it as your own, even with permission, is academically unethical and is treated as plagiarism. This is known as "collusion."
6. Acquiring work from commercial sources is academically unethical and is treated as plagiarism.
7. You run out of time and add two articles to your bibliography that you did not use to write your paper. This is called "padding" your reference list, and is considered academic dishonesty. Do not include materials that you did not use or refer to in your paper.
8. Using an essay that you wrote for another class/another purpose without getting permission from the teacher/professor of both the current class and the class for which the original work was used is "self-plagiarism." You may use your previous work as a basis for new research of course, but include the original work in your bibliography.
9. If you are not sure of where you found a quote or an idea, do not make up or cite a source that is uncertain. This is not giving due credit to the original authors and it is academically dishonest. Either leave out the quote completely or talk to your instructor, since using it could be considered plagiarism.