13 March 2024

COMMUNIQUÉ FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR: TEACHING AND LEARNING

2024 UNDERSTANDING PLAGIARISM SHORT COURSE

Dear Staff and Students

The Teaching and Learning Office presents the 2024 Understanding Plagiarism Online Short Course as a free resource for plagiarism capacitation. This online course is the product of a Teaching and Learning project funded through the Teaching Innovation and Quality Enhancement Grant and undertaken by academics who were concerned about plagiarism and academic integrity at the institution. This course aims to promote academic integrity as advanced in the UKZN plagiarism policy.

The course design is based on an Adaptive Learning approach, ensuring students are fully engaged while learning. As such, participants will earn marks, badges, and certificates for active participation, careful reading, and quizzes. Participants will receive a course completion certificate at the end of the course once they achieve an overall mark of 80% or higher, of which activities/quizzes can be attempted multiple times until the desired certificate mark is achieved.

Since its piloting in 2022, the course has attracted a significant increase in participation. In 2022 and 2023, the participation was 1093 and 3363, with a completion rate of 74% and 92%, respectively. UTLO encourages staff and students to take advantage of this free resource to learn about plagiarism and get acquainted with the plagiarism policy to uphold academic integrity in our learning and research.

In the 2024 version of the Understanding Plagiarism Online Short Course, the following new additions have been made:

- New modern feel and look that is mobile responsive

- Certificate verification portal

- Generic guide on ethical use of Artificial Intelligence in Learning and Research.

The 2024 Understanding Plagiarism Online Short Course features:

- **Mode of delivery**: Fully online

- **Enrolment method**: Self-enrolment

- **Course duration**: Self-paced

- **Course design approach**: Adaptive learning

- **Completion incentive**: Automated certificate of completion

- **Gamified engagement**: Automated certificate of engagement

To enrol for this course, please go to the course webpage on the UTLO website by clicking this link: 2024 Understanding Plagiarism Online Short Course. We wish you success in your learning journeys and hope you find this course beneficial and enjoyable.

Professor Thabo Msibi
Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching and Learning