

Managing Plagiarism

Australian Council of Deans of ICT

1st April 2016

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Managing Plagiarism

presenting the work or ideas of another person as one's own without appropriate acknowledgement or referencing

e.g. https://academicintegrity.curtin.edu.au/overview/Plagiarism_what_is.cfm

Some possible sources:

- printed or online sources ('plagiarism')
- others in the class ('collusion')
- someone paid to do it ('contract cheating')
- someone else (family/friends) who helped
- a tutoring or writing service

Academic integrity

... at the heart of quality and standards

2014

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2013/apr/23/student-jailed-bribe-professor>

the guardian

News World Sport Comment Culture Business Environment Science Travel T

News UK news Crime

Failing student jailed for trying to bribe professor

Yang Li offered University of Bath professor £5,000 in cash to change mark for dissertation, court told

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Press Association
theguardian.com, Wednesday 24 April 2013 00.37 AEST

Article histo

2013

2015

Australian Government
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

TEQSA

Report on Student Academic Integrity and Allegations of Contract Cheating by University Students

<http://www.teqsa.gov.au/news-publications/report-student-academic-integrity-and-allegations-contract-cheating-university>

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/students-enlist-mymaster-website-to-write-essays-assignments-20141110-11k0xg.html>

The Sydney Morning Herald

National

Can your BANIBE

Investigations Interactives Health Child Abuse Inquiry Public Service News World War 1 Centenary

You are here: Home > National > Education >

Students enlist MyMaster website to write essays, assignments

November 12, 2014

Amy McNeillage and Lisa Visentin

Read later

<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/stories/2015/04/20/4217741.htm>

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Degrees of Deception

Linton Besser and Peter Cronau
20 Apr 2015

Australia has been gripped by a national debate over how to fund our university education. But perhaps there's a more important question: what is it worth?

More

Higher education standards

New HE standards scheduled for 2017 onwards:

1.4(3) Methods of assessment ... **are capable of confirming that all specified learning outcomes are achieved** and that grades awarded reflect the level of student attainment.

5.2(2) **Preventative action** is taken to mitigate foreseeable risks to academic and research integrity.

5.3(4) Review and improvement activities include regular **external referencing** of the success of student cohorts against comparable courses of study, including ... **assessment methods and grading of student achievement.**

Preventative actions?



news.com.au Telegraph Herald Sun ... etc.etc. 15th August 2013

Drivers for change

- Greater use of text matching systems have made simple 'copy and paste' type operations less likely to succeed.
- Internet technologies make it very easy to find a source of support - payment and delivery is simple, and rapid.

Off the shelf?

The screenshot shows the EssaySchool website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Topics, Custom essay, Order, Resources, and FAQ. The left sidebar features the EssaySchool logo with the tagline "Top of the class." and a "News" section with a dropdown arrow. Below the news section are two testimonial blocks. The main content area displays a list of essays for sale, starting with "Academic Honesty and Plagiarism" and "Plagiarism in Adult Education". Each listing includes a brief description and links for more information or purchase.

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Fast delivery
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Satisfaction guaranteed

News

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P. Wallace

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Now Showing Matches 1 To 10 [\[Next\]](#)
Page 1

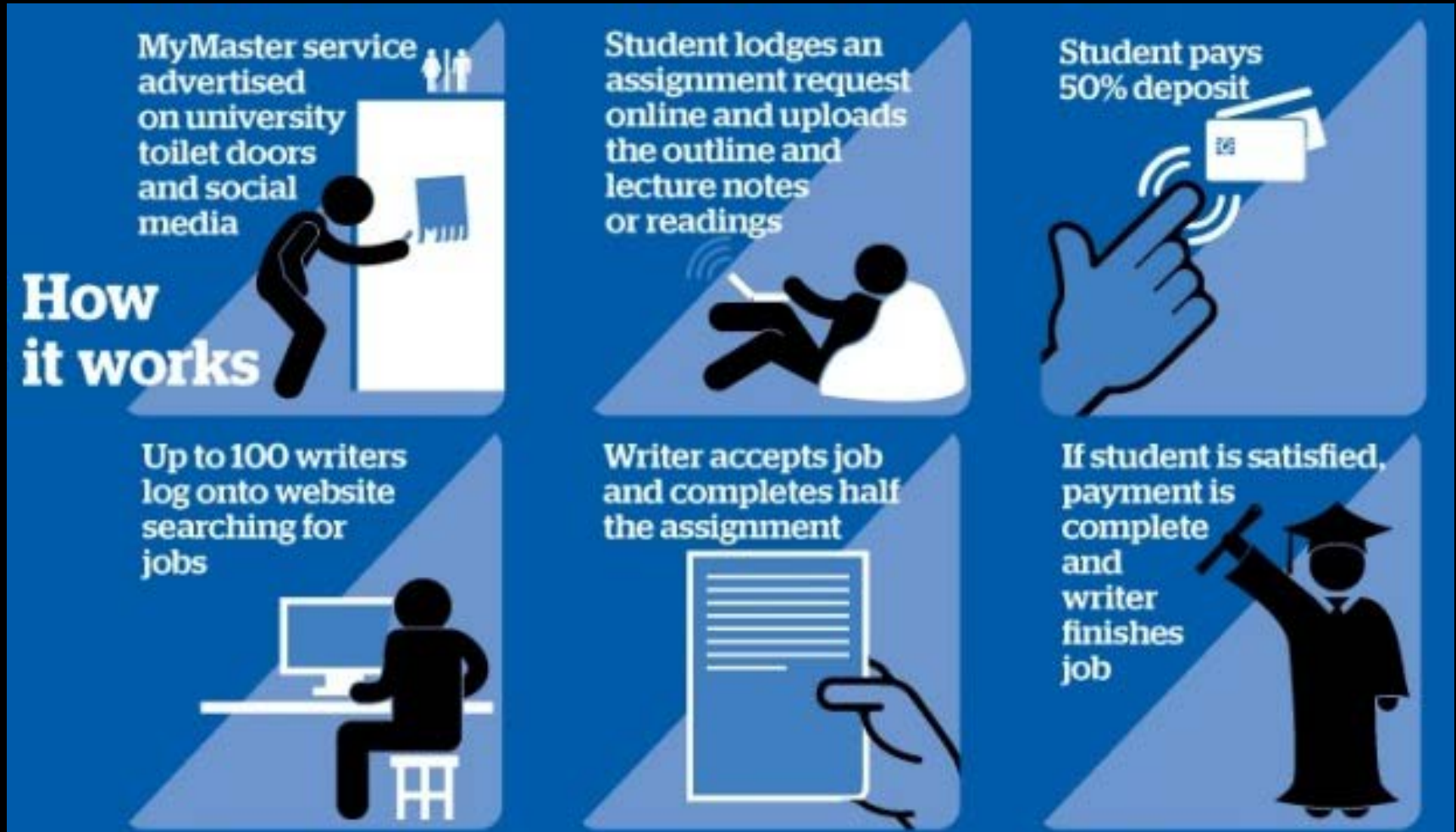
Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
A 5 page paper which examines academic honesty and plagiarism in higher education. Bibliography lists 5 sources. ...
> [Click here for a FREE description of this essay!]
> [Click here to purchase & receive this essay TODAY!]

Plagiarism in Adult Education
A 3 page paper which examines a case study of plagiarism in adult education. Bibliography lists 3 sources. ...
> [Click here for a FREE description of this essay!]
> [Click here to purchase & receive this essay TODAY!]

Plagiarism: Ethical and Professional
A 3 page paper which examines the ethical and professional dimensions of plagiarism. Bibliography lists 5 sources. ...

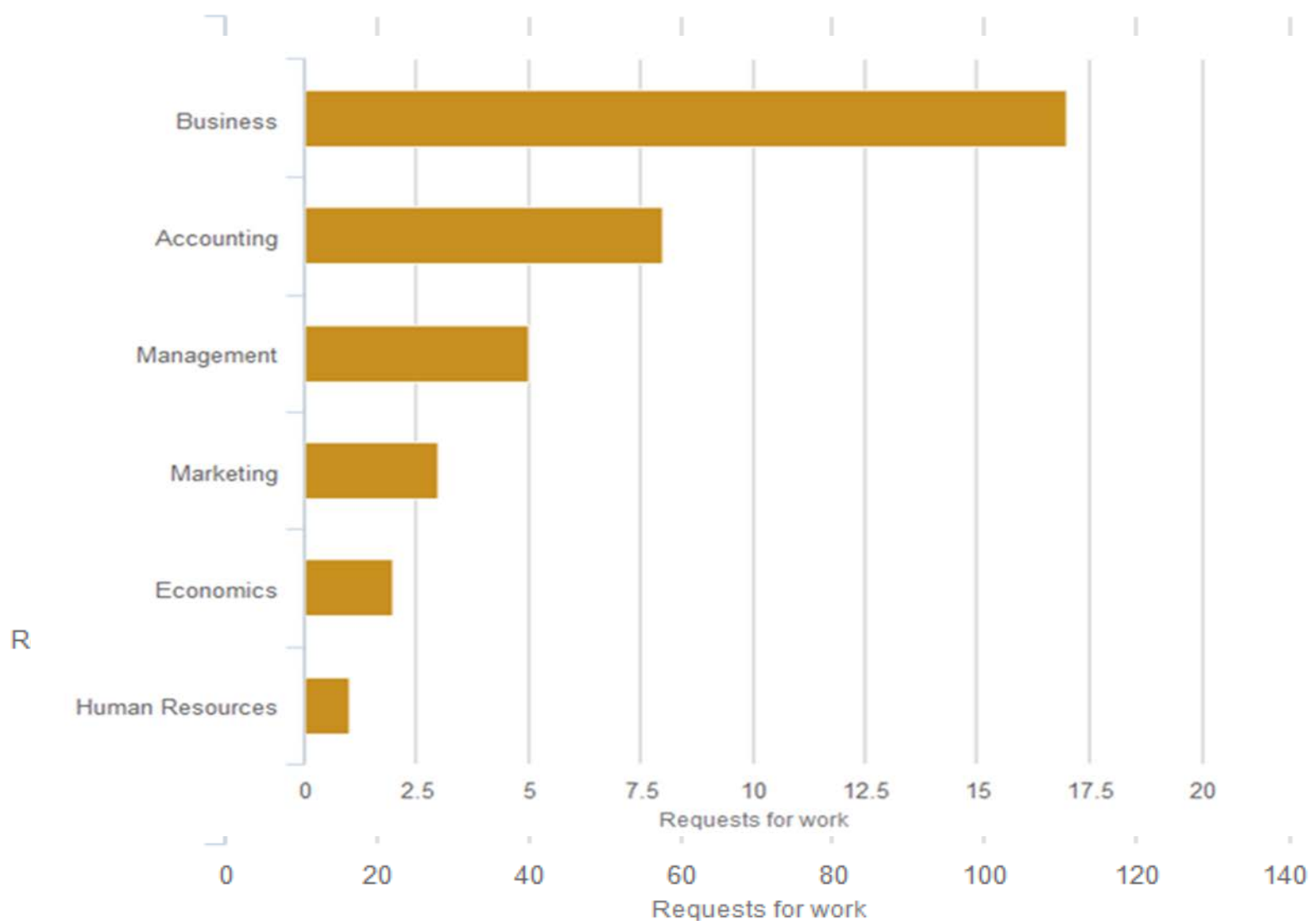
(Reference no longer available – site removed)

Outsourcing is the modern way...



smh.com.au/national/education/students-enlist-mymaster-website-to-write-essays-assignments-20141111-11k0xg.html

MyMaster – November 2014



It is easy to outsource your work – and cheap



| | Bids | | Time to first bid | |
|--------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| writing an Academic assignment | 13 | Academic Writing | 25 secs | \$83 USD |

Source: freelancer.com

Setting up your account < 5 minutes

Getting replies/help = within an hour

Assignment complete = within hours/days

Commissioning work

I am not the smartest student in the class so
please make the paper believable
(a 80%-90% grade range)

Lancaster and Clarke (2012) The New Challenges of Contract Cheating (SIG Keynote)

Rigby et al. 2015

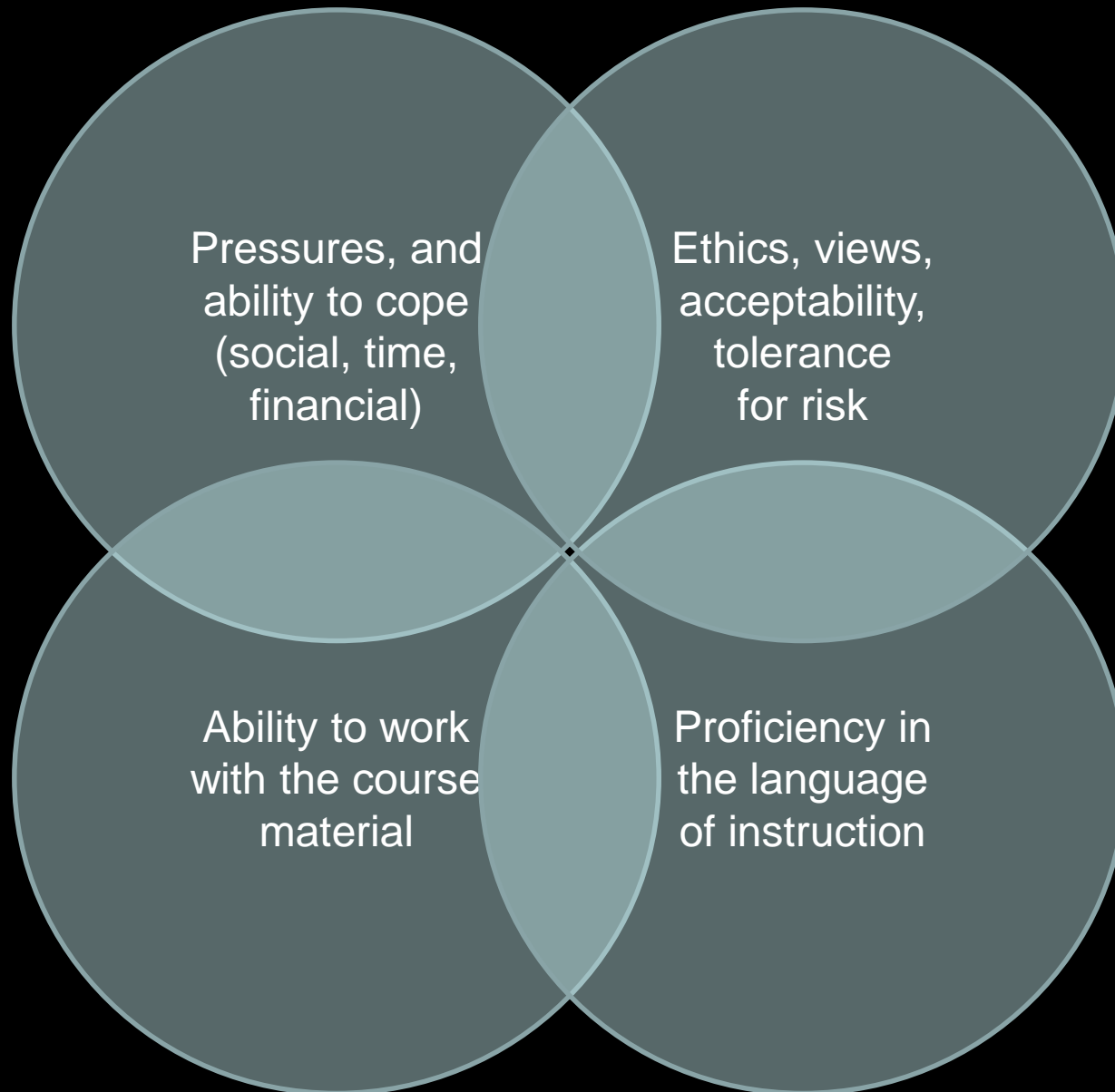
Contract cheating & the market in essays, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization 111 (2015) 23–37

- Investigated student demand for essays using hypothetical scenarios.
- 45 of 90 students elected to ‘buy’ an assignment - those predicting poor grades willing to ‘pay’ more.
- Purchase likelihoods and essay valuations declined as the probability of detection and penalty increased.
- “As the market grows the justification that such behavior is necessary to keep up with other cheaters will be reinforced, further fuelling essay market growth.”

Neutralising guilt?

“A substantial number of students viewed academic dishonesty as justified because of time pressure, fear of failure, or in order to pass a course.”

Academic integrity – many dimensions



Can technology help?

Only so far.

- Hard to distinguish between:
own work | scaffolded work | **others work**
- Turnitin is very good at matching copied works.
Detecting contract cheating? Sometimes.
- Automatic grade profiling / writing analysis is difficult to apply effectively.
- Check known sites / Google Alerts / Keywords

Writing services – some ethical, some not

Assignment Essay Writing Help in PERTH
You are guaranteed to ace your assessment!

 [Perth, WA](#)

Not NEED to worry! We provide assignment assistance to students. I already completing their PhDs in relevant areas of study (finance, economics, statistics) My major is Marketing .Now working in marketing firm .

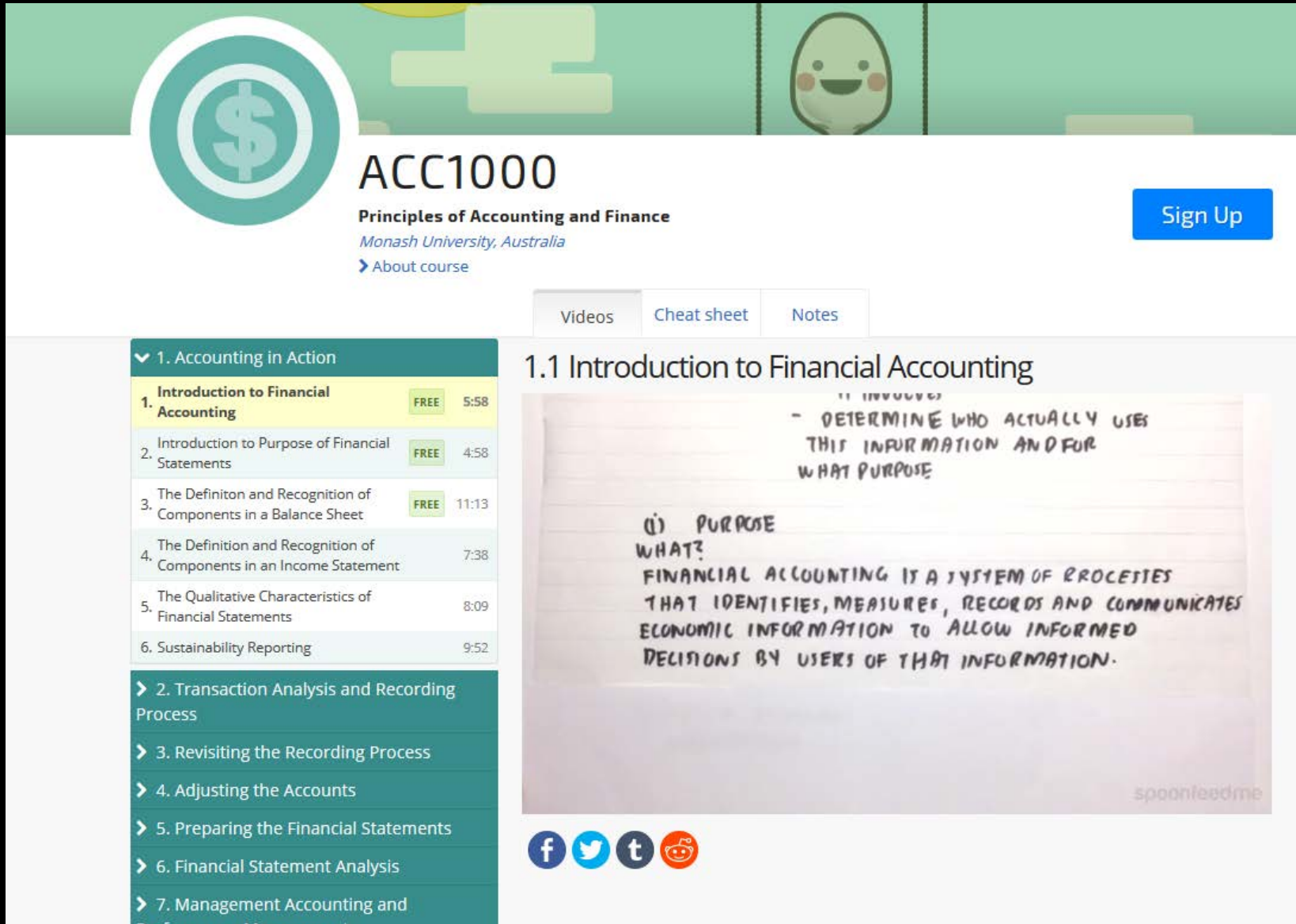
PROMISE ~NO PLAGARISM, 100% EFFORT, QUALITY GUARANTEED! You are guaranteed to ace your assessment!



from perth.gumtree.com.au

Some offer tutoring support, which then unfolds...

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1. Accounting in Action

| | | |
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| 1. Introduction to Financial Accounting | FREE | 5:58 |
| 2. Introduction to Purpose of Financial Statements | FREE | 4:58 |
| 3. The Definition and Recognition of Components in a Balance Sheet | FREE | 11:13 |
| 4. The Definition and Recognition of Components in an Income Statement | | 7:38 |
| 5. The Qualitative Characteristics of Financial Statements | | 8:09 |
| 6. Sustainability Reporting | | 9:52 |

2. Transaction Analysis and Recording Process

3. Revisiting the Recording Process

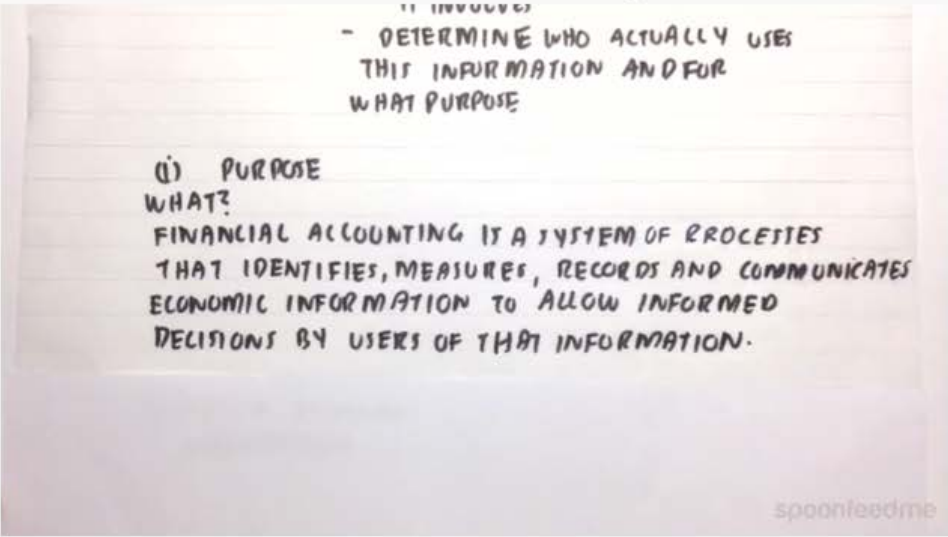
4. Adjusting the Accounts

5. Preparing the Financial Statements

6. Financial Statement Analysis

7. Management Accounting and Performance Management

1.1 Introduction to Financial Accounting



DETERMINE WHO ACTUALLY USES THIS INFORMATION AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE

(1) PURPOSE
WHAT?
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING IS A SYSTEM OF PROCESSES THAT IDENTIFIES, MEASURES, RECORDS AND COMMUNICATES ECONOMIC INFORMATION TO ALLOW INFORMED DECISIONS BY USERS OF THAT INFORMATION.

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Some fools for April

1. In their case notes of patient visits submitted for assessment, a medical student referred to someone who was no longer around.
2. Student submitted an application for a hardship loan, which included a copy of bank statements. These included many transactions with 'customessays.co.uk'
3. Student accidentally submitted (as part of the essay) the entire email transcript of the transaction with the ghost writer.

Pressures on both sides

Students:

- May see buying work as quasi-legitimate
- May feel they have no choice
- 'Market' flooded with 'contractors'

Universities:

- Staff under pressure to do more with less
- Good assessment/feedback takes time
- Online modes (especially online exams)
- Considerable resources needed to manage

Managing plagiarism – what can be done?

Of some help, but less than we may think...

- Renewed assessments each presentation?
- Short time turnarounds?
- Personalised, authentic assessment?
- Block sites? 'Cease & desist' take down notices?

Other avenues

- Viva
- Linked tests
- Fighting plagiarism with humour (Bergen, CUNY)
- Public assessment space

Managing plagiarism – policy developments

Educative

- Growth of ‘academic integrity programs’
- Use of ‘designated units’ early in studies

Penalties

- Greater attention to contract cheating
- Harsher penalties for deliberate acts
- Grey areas remain...

Assurance of learning

- Emergent role for the confirmation viva
- Increased focus on role of editors

And if you can't make it, fake it.

The screenshot displays the Yuhongzp.com website interface. On the left, a navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Samples', and 'Guar'. Below this is a 'Free Samples Proof Before It Ships!' banner. The 'Global Products' section lists various fake degrees: Fake USA Degrees, Fake CAD Degrees, Fake AUS Degrees, Fake UK Degrees, and Fake International Degrees. A vertical list of buttons offers to buy PMI certificate, CPA certificate, IELTS transcript, ACCA certificate, other certificates, driving licenses, student cards, and create/copy A IDs. An 'International order forms' button is at the bottom. The central part of the page features a large, detailed image of a fake Bachelor of Business Administration (Marketing) diploma from The University of New Castle. The diploma text includes: 'The University of New Castle', 'In the name of the Board of Trustees of the University of New Castle and by the Authority of the same be it known that', 'Having fulfilled all the requirements has this day been awarded', 'Bachelor In Business Administration Marketing', 'With all the privileges attached to the same and the Board of Trustees has authorized the Seal of the University to be herewith affixed', and the ID 'M0671MPL2004LNC'. On the right, the website header shows 'YUHONGZP.COM' with five stars and a search bar. Below is a 'Worldwide Shipping We Deliver Everywhere!' banner. A banner for 'DIPLOMAS. GZP.COM' is also visible. At the bottom right, a section shows a fake diploma from HCLMES INSTITUTE for a 'Diploma of Hospitality Management' with a red seal and the text 'fake Holmes degree, b'.