

NON-PLAGIARISM AFFIRMATION

Each graduate student when s/he files a master's thesis must sign the statement below affirming that s/he has NOT been guilty of plagiarism in preparing his or her study.

I, _____, a candidate for the degree of _____, affirm that I have NOT engaged in plagiarism.

"Plagiarism": The act of appropriating the literary composition of another, or parts or passages of his/her writings, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them of as the product of one's own mind. To be liable for plagiarism, it is not necessary to exactly duplicate another's literary work, it being sufficient if unfair use of such work is made by lifting a substantial portion thereof, but even an exact counterpart of another's work does not constitute plagiarism if such counterpart was arrived at independently" (Black, 1979, p. 1035).

I understand that if plagiarism is subsequently discovered in the preparation of this document, Montana State University-Billings may, after a hearing, take appropriate action against me including possible revocation of my graduate degree.

Signature: _____

Date: _____