The Art of Citing

Based on They Say/I Say
Graff & Birkenstein, courtesy of Carmen Werder, WWU
What is citing?

>>And why do it?<<
Citing is…

• Making reference to what experts say

• **Summarizing**, **Paraphrasing**, and **Quoting**

• **To:**
  1. establish your own AUTHOR-ity
  2. honor the work of others
  3. assist readers/listeners in tracking your chain of reasoning
How do you know when…

• To **summarize**?

• To **paraphrase**?

• To **quote**?
Summarize when...

- You want to use an expert’s **BIG IDEA**.

- **For example:**
  In the essay “Imaginary Orient,” Nochlin uncovers ethnocentric biases in nineteenth-century European painting practices that configure the Middle East as inferior to Europe.
Paraphrase when …

• You want to use an expert’s **SPECIFIC POINT**.

• For example:

  Nochlin prefaces her discussion with reference to Edward Said and his research on the ways in which Middle Eastern cultures have been defined in Western literature through a haze of Orientalism (34).
Quote when….

• you want to use an expert’s

WELL SAID WORDS

For example:

Nochlin focuses on the impact of denuding Middle Eastern scenes of signs of modernity, stating that “these absences are so conspicuous that, once we become aware of them, they begin to function as presences, in fact, as signs of a certain kind of conceptual deprivation” (35). These constructed deficiencies became part of the standard iconography for depictions of the Middle East in nineteenth-century Europe and the United States.
What is an overall citing guideline?

- **Summarize** frequently.
- **Paraphrase** occasionally.
- **Quote** sparingly. (Punctuation)
How do you build a quotation sandwich?

• Begin with a slice of introduction.
• Layer with a quotation word for word.
• Add a slice of explanation.
For example:

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How to punctuate a direct quotation?

• Use comma or colon after attribution.

• Use **quotation marks** to indicate titles of **shorter works** and **italics** for **longer works**.

• Place commas and periods **inside** quotation marks except when followed by parenthetical citation.