

# The University of Edinburgh - Own Work Declaration

## Earth Science Degree Programmes

*This form must be completed by all students who are doing Earth Science Honours Degree Programmes. It must be completed **ONCE** at the beginning of the Junior Honours Year, and **ONCE** at the beginning of the Senior Honours Year. This form is considered to be 'valid' for all degree work undertaken during the academic year in which it is signed. Each box should be ticked as a means of verifying that you have understood this declaration, then signed and dated. Work will not be marked unless this form is fully completed.*

Name .....

Matric Number: .....

Degree Programme: .....

Year of Study: Junior Honours

Senior Honours

***I confirm that submitted work will be my own except where indicated, and that I will:***

Clearly referenced/listed all sources as appropriate

Referenced and put in inverted commas all quoted text (from books, web, etc)

Given the sources of all pictures, data, etc that are not my own

Not made any inappropriate use of the report(s) or essay(s) of any other student(s) either past or present

Not sought or used the help of any external professional agencies for the work

Acknowledged in appropriate ways and places any help received from others (e.g. fellow students, technicians, statisticians, external sources)

Complied with any other plagiarism criteria specified in the Course Handbook

I understand that any false claim for this work will be penalised in accordance with University regulations

Signature .....

Date .....

**Please note:** If you need further guidance on plagiarism, you can

1. Consult your course handbook
2. Speak to your course organiser or supervisor
3. Check out <http://www.aaps.ed.ac.uk/regulations/Plagiarism/Intro.htm>

***Please read the notes about the use of plagiarism detection software overleaf***

## **Use of plagiarism detection software**

*Note that computers may be used to detect plagiarism, whether by using something as simple as a search engine such as Google (it is as easy for a marker to find online sources as it is for you) or something more complex for specialized comparisons of work. Some courses will use the JISC plagiarism detection service.*

The plagiarism detection service is an online service hosted at [www.submit.ac.uk](http://www.submit.ac.uk) that enables institutions and staff to carry out electronic comparison of students' work against electronic sources including other students' work. The service is managed by The University of Northumbria on behalf of the Joint Informations Systems Committee (JISC) and is available to all UK tertiary education institutions by subscription.

The plagiarism detected service works by executing searches of the world wide web and extensive databases of reference material, as well as content previously submitted by other users. Each new submission is compared with all the existing information. The software makes no decisions as to whether a student has plagiarised, it simply highlights sections of text that are duplicated in other sources. All work will continue to be reviewed by the course tutor. As such, the software is simply used as a tool to highlight any instance where there is a possible case of plagiarism. Passages copied directly or very closely from existing sources will be identified by the software, and both the original and the potential copy will be displayed for the tutor to view. Where any direct quotations are relevant and appropriately referenced, the course tutor will be able to see this and will continue to consider the next highlighted case.

Once work has been submitted to the system it becomes part of the ever growing database of material against which subsequent submissions are checked. The copyright in each work submitted remains with the original author, but a non-exclusive, non-transferable, licence is granted to permit use of the material for plagiarism detection purposes.

There is an on-line demonstration of the system available at <http://www.submit.ac.uk/>