

Center for Teaching and Learning
Last updated 1/23/25
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Using Turnitin

Keep in mind that Turnitin is not 100% accurate for plagiarism, nor for writing that is generated by artificial intelligence (AI). So, after the student work is submitted, you will have to open the report to read it and interpret it for each student. It only looks for matches to published writing, so it will flag a direct quote—which is not plagiarism. If a student uses Grammarly, it will say the writing is AI-generated. Also, make sure you tell students that you are running their work through a plagiarism/AI checker and make sure you allow learners to see their similarity scores.

Also, please know that detecting writing generated by AI is not fool-proof and false positive results are causing a lot of anguish for students who are doing their own work. Because of that, many colleges are no longer using it.

Be explicit with your students when it comes to academic integrity. And use the most up to date syllabus template, which contains AI statements.

Training Through SUNY

For Turnitin training, visit this website: <https://sites.google.com/turnitin.com/cevents-suny/home#h.6b7auzls30bc>

Meet with CTL

You may want to meet with us to find ways to revise your assessments. Make an appointment by emailing CTL@sunysuffolk.edu

Related Articles

Bowen, J.A. & Watson, C.E. (2024, May2). *Advice: AI detection is a business. But should it be faculty business?* The Chronicle of Higher Education. <https://www.chronicle.com/article/ai-detection-is-a-business-but-should-it-be-faculty-business>

Mathewson, T.G. (2024, January 10). *Machine learning: Plagiarism detection tools offer a false sense of accuracy.* The Markup. <https://themarkup.org/machine-learning/2024/01/10/plagiarism-detection-tools-offer-a-false-sense-of-accuracy>

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Directions for setting up Turnitin in your Brightspace course site

Create an assignment.

Click “Evaluation and feedback”

Click “Manage Turnitin”

Enable the “Similarity Report”

Click “Allow learners to see similarity scores”

Click Save

The screenshot shows the 'New Assignment' form in Brightspace. The form is divided into several sections:

- Assignment Title:** A text input field containing 'Sample assignment'.
- Grade Out Of:** A dropdown menu set to '5' points, with an 'In Grade Book' checkbox.
- Due Date:** A date picker set to 'M/D/YYYY'.
- Instructions:** A rich text editor with a toolbar and a large text area.
- Availability Dates & Conditions:** A section with a dropdown menu set to 'Always available'.
- Submission & Completion:** A section with a dropdown menu set to 'File submission'.
- Evaluation & Feedback:** A section with a dropdown menu set to 'No rubric added'. This section is circled in red.

At the bottom of the form, there are icons for 'Record Audio' and 'Record Video'.

Turnitin™ Integration

Similarity Report

Enable similarity checking to identify matching or similar text to sources in Turnitin's databases.

Enable Similarity Report for this folder

Display

Allow learners to see similarity scores in their submission folder

Submissions Checked

Automatic similarity checking on all submissions

Identify individual submissions for similarity checking

Online Grading

Enable Turnitin's intuitive suite of feedback and grading tools.

Enable Online Grading for this folder