

Turnitin for Students

What is Turnitin?

Turnitin is a *text matching tool* that highlights any part of your work that has been matched to previously published sources. When you submit a document to Turnitin it will give you an electronic report back (called an originality report) which shows you whether any of your text matches work that has already been submitted or published by somebody else. Using Turnitin in this way gives you an opportunity to check that you haven't copied (plagiarised) somebody else's work and a chance to revise your work so that you are absolutely certain it is your own (original).

Please note that Turnitin is for your use only, your tutor will not see the work or mark it.

What is Plagiarism?

The UH definition of plagiarism is:

The misappropriation or use of others' ideas, intellectual property or work (written or otherwise), without acknowledgement or permission. It may be intentional or unintentional and includes, but is not limited to:

- the importing of phrases from or all or part of another person's work without using quotation marks and identifying the source;
- without acknowledgement of the source, making extensive use of another person's work, either by summarising or paraphrasing the work merely by changing a few words or by altering the order in which the material is presented;
- the use of the ideas of another person without acknowledgement of the source or the presentation of work which substantially comprises the ideas of another person and which represents these as being the ideas of the candidate.

Whatever the reason, copying someone else's work (plagiarism) is an assessment offence which the University treats very seriously. If you want to cite or quote other people's work then you must use the School's Referencing Guidelines to acknowledge the original source.

How can Turnitin help me?

Turnitin can show you where your work is closely matched to that of someone else's i.e. it lacks originality. You can use the originality report to work out how to improve what you have written. It may be that you need to spend more time reading and understanding the sources you are using so that paraphrasing comes more easily or that you need additional tutorial support to improve your academic writing skills. See the School [Academic Skills Advice](#) website for more help.

How do I get access to Turnitin?

Student access is created within StudyNet at module assignment level; just enter StudyNet using your username and password in the usual way. No other password is required.

Is Turnitin available for every assignment?

The module leader will decide whether to offer the Turnitin facility for the module assignment(s) or not. If Turnitin is switched on, it is up to you whether you use it or not. If Turnitin has not been switched on, ask your Module Leader if they can make it available for you.

How often can I use it?

You can submit your work **once** for each assignment.

How long before report is issued?

The report usually takes about an hour but it could be up to 24 hours if the service is busy.

Can academic staff see my originality reports?

The work you submit to Turnitin and the report you get back are **not** seen by the academic staff.

Will my work be put through Turnitin by academic staff?

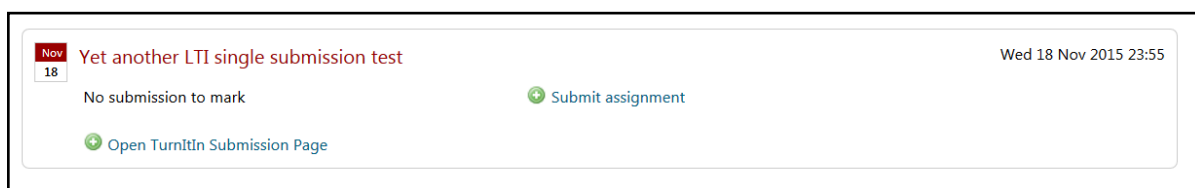
When you have submitted your final piece of work your tutor may decide to put it through Turnitin for checking. Academics have their own Turnitin facility which is separate to Turnitin for students.

Does Turnitin 'decide' if I have committed an assessment offence?

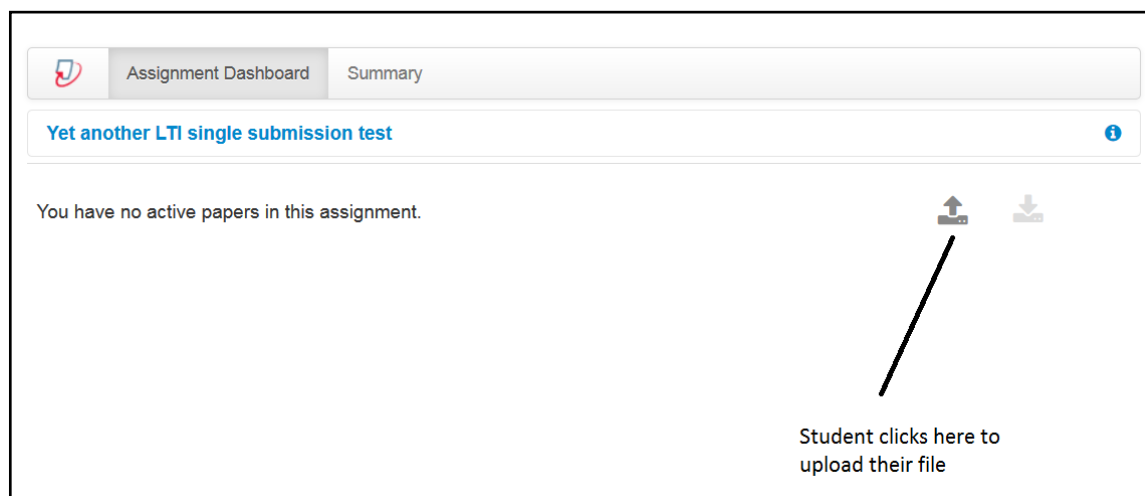
Turnitin does not make decisions about the originality of your work or any other academic offence, nor does it determine if the text has been referenced correctly or not. The judgement of originality lies with the module leader in the first instance and may or may not involve the use of Turnitin.

What does the Turnitin facility in StudyNet look like?

If switched on, the Turnitin facility will show up in your assignment portal:



Click on the 'Open Turnitin Submissions Page' to see the Turnitin 'Student Assignment Dashboard', which will either provide a link to upload a file, or list the file you have already uploaded along with the originality report score:



Provide a title for your upload and then select the file from your laptop/USB/PC to be checked by Turnitin:

You will have to confirm that the work is your own before you can submit your work:

Whilst a file is being uploaded, Turnitin will show the status of the upload and then ask for final confirmation that you want this piece of work to be checked by asking you to 'Accept Submission':

Note: Your submitted drafts are not saved to the Turnitin file repository.

The Turnitin text matching report will be produced for you to view via the 'Student Assignment Dashboard':

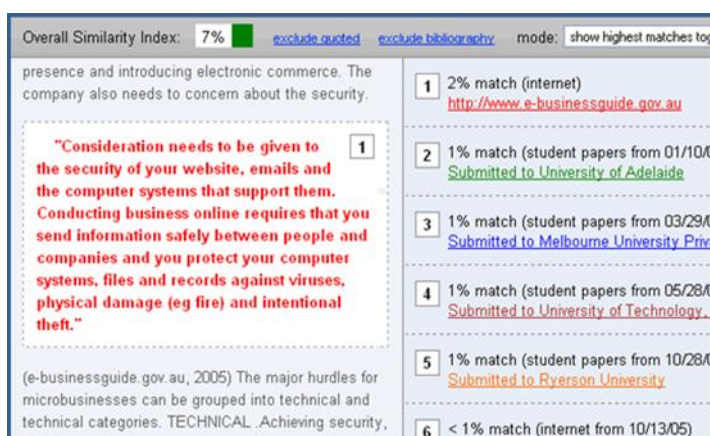


The report can be viewed in three different formats.

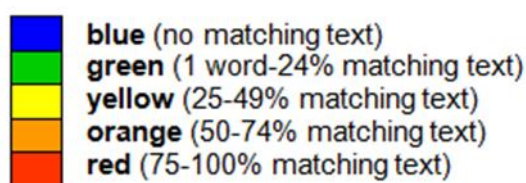
Use the drop down menu marked 'mode' to select one of the three options

- Show highest matches together (selected close matches)
- Show matches one at a time (a list)
- Quickview: Classic Report (a list followed by complete paper with highlighted text)

Highest matches together view:



When deciphering the report, the colour code will indicate the % range of text which matches or is similar to the published text of others:



Important note

It is up to you to use your Turnitin report as an opportunity to develop your academic writing skills further. For example, you may need to improve your referencing presentation or the way that you paraphrase the ideas of others. However, Turnitin cannot stop you from plagiarising nor can it guarantee that you haven't copied somebody else's work (accidentally or intentionally). It is a tool to help you but ultimately you are responsible for producing an original piece of work that acknowledges where you have drawn on the ideas of others to help you formulate your own.

Plagiarism is an academic offence which carries a serious penalty. Please do not put your future as a healthcare or social work professional at risk as a result of plagiarism or any other form of academic misconduct.