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Deterring & Detecting Plagiarism

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

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What is plagiarism?

Representing the work of another as one's own.

<https://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code>

Not Going to Discuss

- The role of “ intent”
- Cultural differences regarding attribution
- Approaching the suspected plagiarist (with or without proof)
- How your department handles plagiarism
- How to punish plagiarists
- The grade appeal

The Joy of Academic Writing

Demonstrating knowledge of the literature is a chance to show off.

Detecting Plagiarism (Pre-Internet)

- Know your student
- Know the literature

Detecting Plagiarism (Internet)

- Copy and paste entire item or sections
- One who copies to save effort is unlikely to edit carefully

Giveaways - Typography

Inconsistent typeface

efficitur lectus. Curabitur pretium

Giveaways - Typography

Inconsistent use of single and double quotes

Donec aliquam massa ac “mollis venenatis.”
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, ‘consectetur
adipiscing elit.’

Giveaways - Typography

Inconsistent use of double hyphens and em-dashes

Sed pulvinar auctor nunc--malesuada ornare est
tincidunt et. Cum sociis natoque penatibus et
magnis—dis parturient montes, nascetur
ridiculus mus.

Giveaways - Typography

Inconsistent use of en-dash in ranges

Phasellus, U. (2015). Ex tincidunt euismod elit.
Duis Volutpat Efficitur, 33(4), 234-245.

Phasellus, U. (2015). Ex tincidunt euismod elit.
Duis Volutpat Efficitur, 33(4), 234–245.

Giveaways - Typography

Inconsistent use of curly/smart quotes and/or apostrophes

Donec aliquam massa ac “mollis venenatis.” Cras vitae suscipit justo, id posuere dolor. Integer sed nulla vitae velit rhoncus porttitor. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, "consectetur adipiscing elit."

Integer interdum elit elit, ut sodale's nibh aliquet sit amet. Cras ac urna at enim gravida cursu's ac non sapien.

American vs. Commonwealth

Spelling and phrasing

USA vs. UK

color vs. colour

math vs. maths

sports vs. sport

in the hospital vs. in hospital

American vs. Commonwealth English

Punctuation

“Economic systems,” according to Professor White, “are an inevitable byproduct of civilization, and are, as John Doe said, ‘with us whether we want them or not.’”

‘Economic systems’, according to Professor White, ‘are an inevitable byproduct of civilization, and are, as John Doe said, “with us whether we want them or not”’.

Deterring Plagiarism

- Set expectations
- Academic Conduct Code Agreement
- Crediting Sources Quiz (cf. MET CS 782)
- Make an originality check part of the process

Set Expectations

Make academic integrity part of the process.

Academic Conduct Code Agreement

CFA ME 841

Quantitative Research Methods in Music Education

2016 Fall 2

Academic Conduct Code Agreement

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Academic Conduct Code Information

As you know, our top priority is to protect the integrity of your degree. We want you to continually be proud that you chose Boston University for the depth and rigor of its programs. To that end, we are asking you to read and indicate your acceptance of Boston University's College of Fine Arts Academic Conduct Code prior to beginning each new course. This important document has always been posted in Information Central; we are now attempting to make students more aware of what that code entails.

By formally pledging to uphold high standards of academic conduct, you will help to protect the value of your hard work and your degree. In addition, your agreement grants you access to course content. We are certain that you share our values of academic honesty and integrity, and we look forward to celebrating the end of all your hard work with you at your graduation.

Please review the [Academic Conduct Code full text](#).



In order to access course content, you must agree to uphold the Academic Conduct Code. To do this, go to the next page and follow the instructions.

Crediting Sources Quiz

- This ten question assessment covers the basics of crediting sources in your works.
- You can take this assessment as often as you like.
- There is extensive feedback to help you learn the material.
- Students need to earn 90% or better before facilitators will grade their assignments.
- To learn the details of how to credit your sources visit the tutorial at www.apastyle.org

Schudy 2012

Question 1

Select all statements that are consequences for plagiarizing an assignment.
(Check all that are true.)

- Students can be suspended for plagiarism or other breaches of the academic conduct policy.
- Plagiarism can result in a grade deduction or a zero grade for the assignment.
- Plagiarism can result in a hearing before the Academic Conduct Committee.
- Plagiarism can result in expulsion from the University.

(Schudy 2012)

Question 5

Select all examples that demonstrate correct use of an APA style citation. (Check all that demonstrate correct use of APA citation style.)

- The 2012 introductory module on enterprise architecture suggested that the requests should be “echoed back” to the user community.
- In 2012, Schudy’s introductory module on enterprise architecture suggested that the requests should be “echoed back” to the user community.
- Schudy (2012) suggested that it’s important to “echo back” the user requests to be sure you understand them.
- It’s important to “echo back” the requests to be sure they’re understood by everyone. (Schudy, 2012)

(Schudy 2012)

Originality Check

Make it part of the writing and/or submission process.

Originality v.s. Plagiarism

Tools like Turnitin detect a match between one text and another.

Academic writing will by definition include matching text as quotes and citations.

Determining if a match between two texts constitutes plagiarism requires your insight and intervention.

What Can It Do?

Turnitin Scope and Functionality

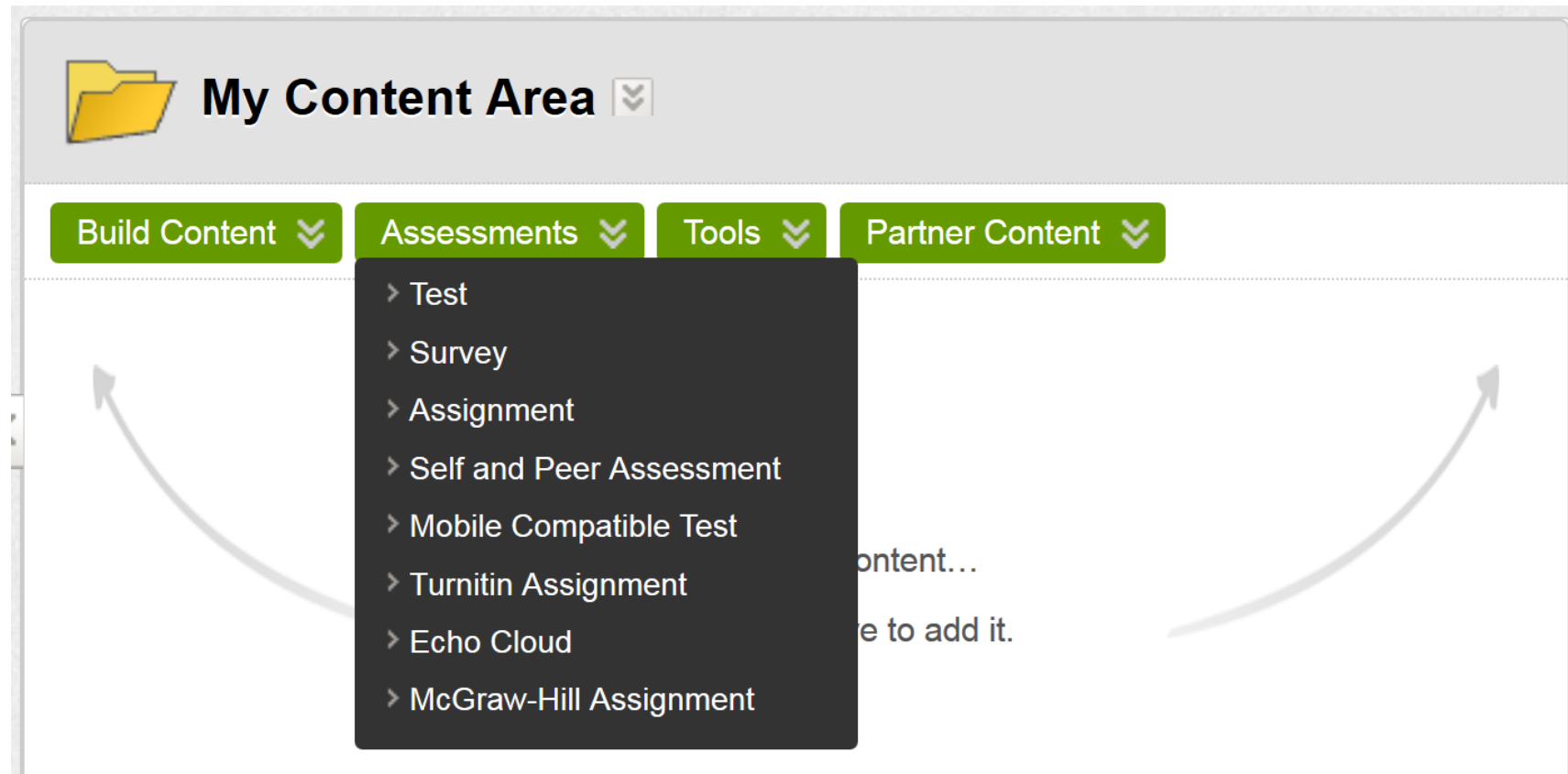
"I need to check closely for plagiarism, so the built-in plagiarism checker will not suffice.

Please apply Turnitin screening on Met XX xxx.

Thank you!"

What Can It Do?

Turnitin is a form of Assessment



What Can It Do?

Turnitin Scope and Functionality

Turnitin is a variant off the Assignment tool in Blackboard.

It will check **ONLY** documents submitted through the tool.

It will not check course content.

It will not check entries in quizzes, discussion posts or blog entries.

Assignments submitted through the Blackboard assignment tool can not have Turnitin enabled to detect plagiarism.

What Can It Do?

File formats

Requirements for single file upload

- File must be less than 40 MB ([read suggestions](#) to meet requirements)
- Files must have at least 20 words of text
- The maximum paper length is 400 pages
- File types allowed: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, WordPerfect, PostScript, PDF, HTML, RTF, OpenOffice (ODT), Hangul (HWP), Google Docs, and plain text

How Does it Find a Match?

The Turnitin Search

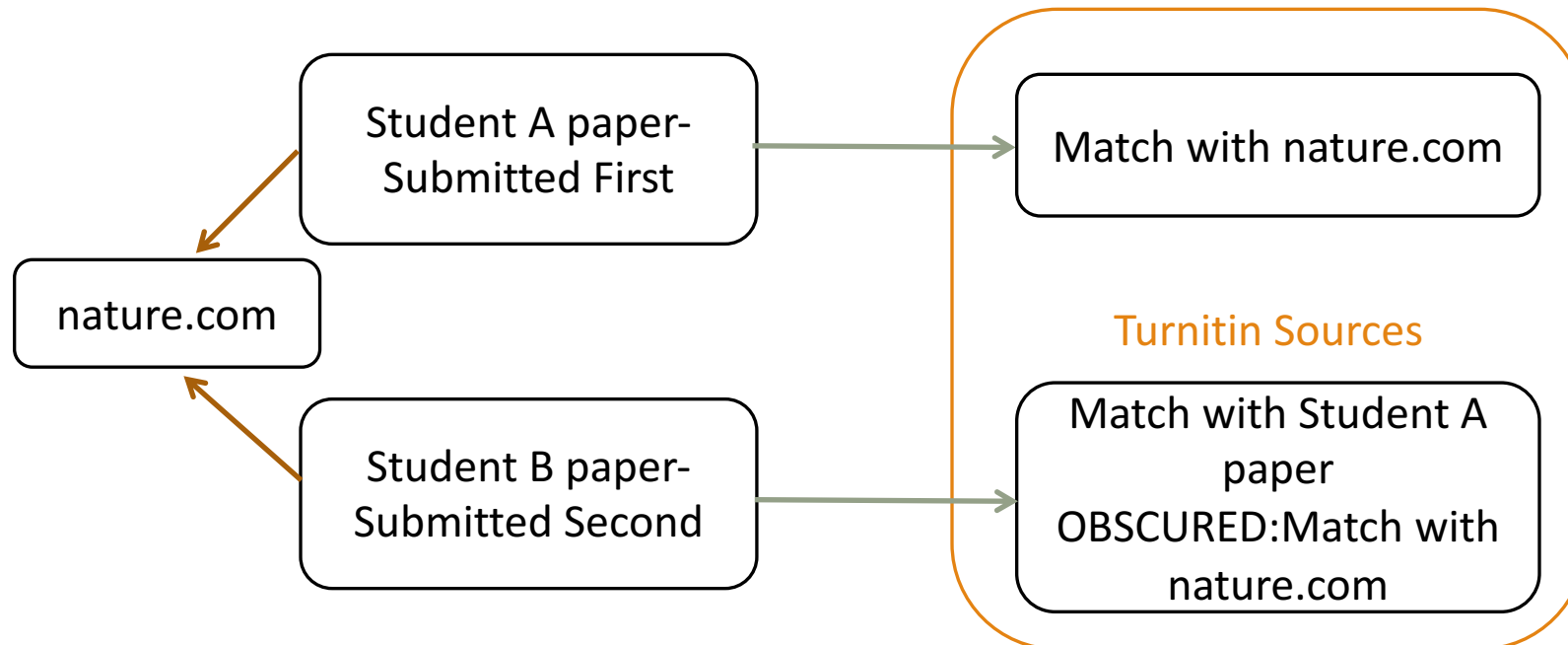
Search options:

- Student paper repository
- Current and archived internet
- Periodicals, journals, & publications

How Does Find a Match?

Search Order

2 papers example



How Does It Find a Match?

Understanding the Similarity Index

Paper A-
ORIGINAL PAPER

Similarity index- 3%

Paper B-
FULL COPY FROM SINGLE
SOURCE

Similarity index- 90%

Paper C-
FULL COPY FROM
MULTIPLE SOURCE

Similarity index- 82%

<https://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz/courses/compsci725s2c/archive/termpapers/jrotzky.pdf>

Feedback Studio Demo

- Creating a Turnitin Assignment in Blackboard
- Uploading an assignment to Turnitin
- Viewing an assignment in Feedback Studio
- Interpreting a Similarity Report in Feedback Studio
- Additional features in Feedback Studio

Supporting Students in Plagiarism Deterrence and Writing Resources

Feedback Studio, Revision Assignments, and BU resources can strengthen writing and decrease likelihood of plagiarism.

- Use of Turnitin becomes tool, not "punishment."
- De-stigmatization of writing resources will help students not to feel ashamed.
- Widespread usage has benefit to all users, not just "remedial" students.
 - Compulsory for CFA Art Education Master's Research Thesis students.

Writing Resources



Web-based tutoring service

- Tutors do NOT write for students, rather, focus on improvement
- Process-oriented
- Emphasizes development of ideas
- Not a grammar/usage/error detection tool

Writing Resources



Peer Tutoring:

- One-off appointments, 60 minutes in duration
- Weekly appointments, 90 minutes in duration

Writing Assistance:

- 45 minutes with writing fellow, any stage of construction
- 20 minutes, drop-in, for mechanical concerns, ie topic sentence, subject/verb agreement

Revision Assignment

This feature of Feedback Studio detects usage and grammar errors, allowing students to implement changes prior to submission:

are also solely responsible for providing their own health insurance, as well as other business-related expenses including professional development, travel, and other occupational accoutrements as necessary. Save for the most sought-after artists in the

Missing ", "



Revision Assignment

This feature of Feedback Studio detects usage and grammar errors:

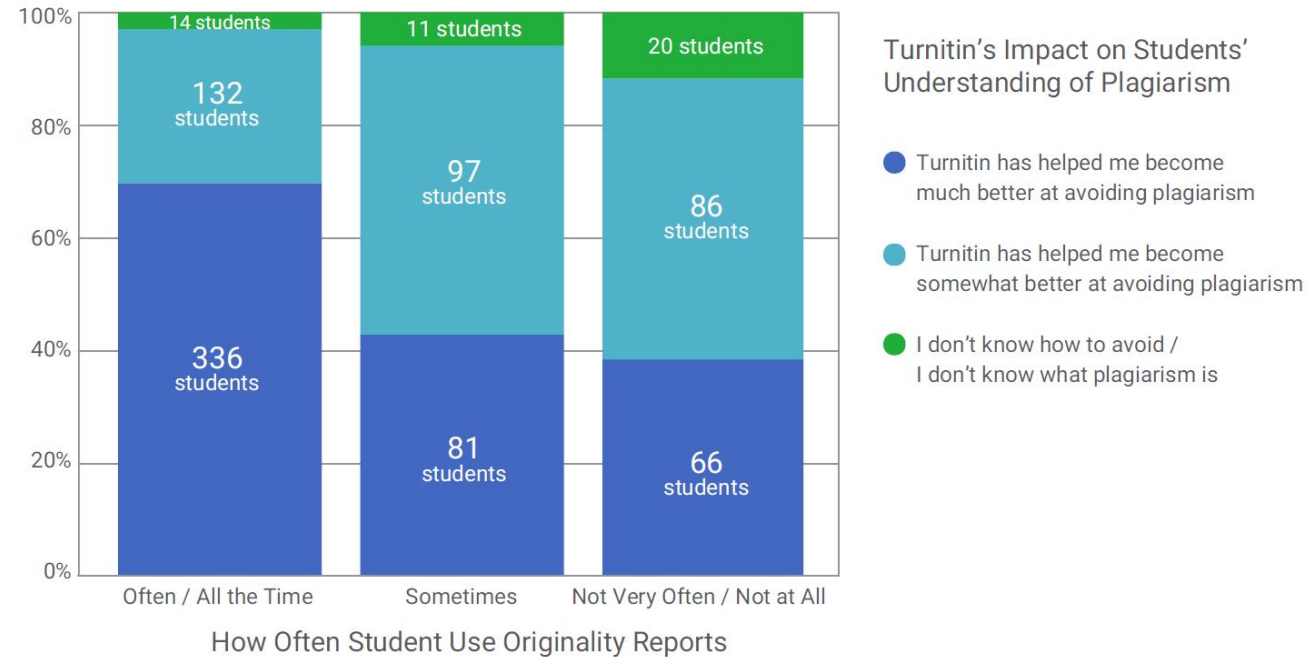
their doors open.”⁶ In the United States, there is a prevailing belief that opera is enjoyed solely by wealthy members of the upper socio-economic strata, and this assertion forms the basis of many arguments against governmental subsidy for the arts. Cultural P/V ETS economist David Throsby elaborated on this argument, saying, "Since the subsidies are

- Also allows students to check highlighted citations against bibliography to ensure proper credit to sources.

Student Feedback- Plagiarism

FIGURE 4

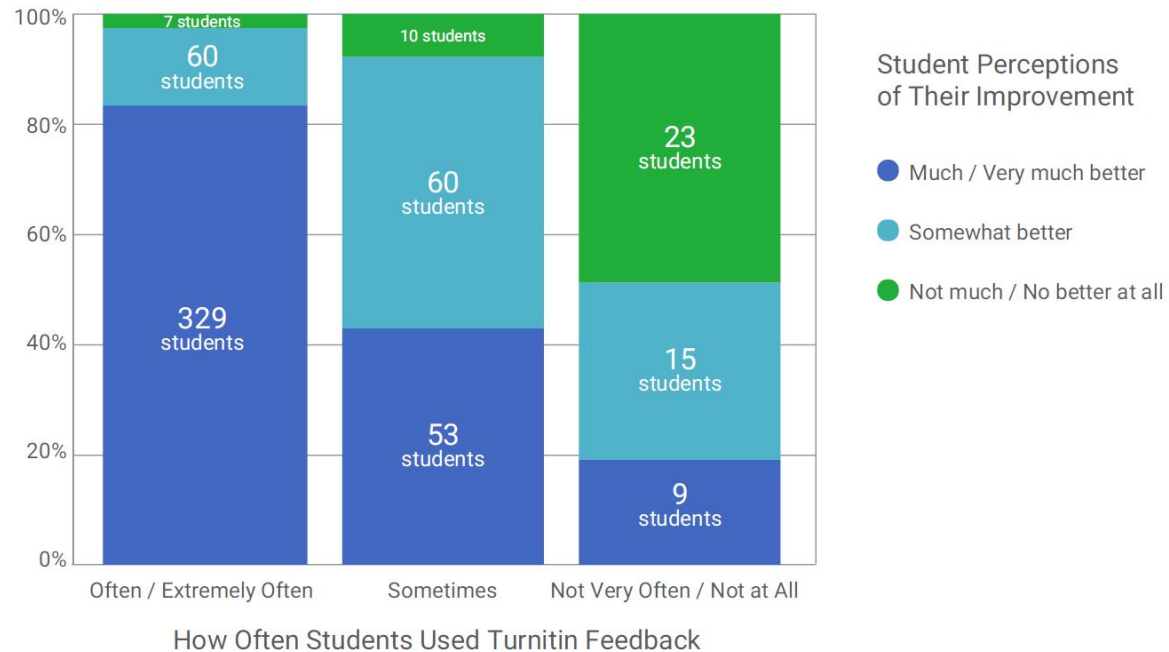
Students' Perceptions of Turnitin's Impact Based on How Often Students Use Reports



Student Feedback- Writing Skills

FIGURE 7

Improvement of Student Writing Based on How Often Students Use Turnitin Feedback



Key Findings and Testimonial

70% of users believe Turnitin possesses value beyond plagiarism detection

77% believe they have become better writers

Users are more likely to agree with increased exposure to Turnitin

"I loved reviewing the results of the originality reports and seeing how I could make my voice more unique. I never once had an issue with plagiarism, but I feel this is a strong tool for people who happen to struggle with avoiding plagiarizing. Plus, it's just so nifty!"

Resources

- BU IS&T, Turnitin Support: <http://www.bu.edu/tech/services/support/desktop/distribution/turnitin/>
- BU IS&T, Using Turnitin through Blackboard: <http://www.bu.edu/tech/services/support/desktop/distribution/turnitin/blackboard/>
- Turnitin, Feedback Studio video tutorials and support: http://turnitin.com/en_us/what-we-offer/feedback-studio
- Turnitin Survey, What Do Students Think of Turnitin: http://turnitin.com/en_us/resources/research/what-do-students-think-of-turnitin
- ERC, Writing Assistance: <https://www.bu.edu/erc/writingassistance/>
- SMARTHINKING, Online Tutoring: <http://www.bu.edu/online/student-resources/smarthinking/>

Questions?