
TURNITIN: USING AN ASSIGNMENT FOR THE FINAL EXAM

March 19, 2020

Given the direction and suggestions provided by the Provost with regards to [COVID-19– Planning for Completing Courses this Term](#) and the need to develop alternatives to in-class testing and final exams, instructors may consider using Turnitin with the final assignment or exam. Instructors who did not include the [Turnitin Conditions of Use](#) statement on their syllabi can now use Turnitin with a final exam or assignment, but instructors must include the following statement in their assignment instructions if they use Turnitin:

“Normally, students will be required to submit their course assignments to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.”

By including this statement in the final assignment instructions, students are informed before they submit that Turnitin will be used. If a student chooses not to submit their assignment through Turnitin, instructors will need to find alternative arrangements to check their work as rigorously. It should be noted that very few students choose to opt out. Students cannot be penalized for choosing to opt out. And it is important that faculty know this if they choose to use Turnitin.

Steps to Create a Turnitin Assignment can be found on the [CTSI website](#).

Similarity Reports:

Reports highlight suspicious passages and do not make judgments as to whether a paper has been plagiarized. Instructors may use the report’s information, as well as any other relevant information, to determine if these passages represent plagiarism. See [Understanding Turnitin and the Similarity Report](#).

Support Contacts:

Instructors can send questions to: q.help@utoronto.ca

Students should contact their instructor, TA, or [Writing Centre](#)

Instructors who have questions about the process for the handling of academic offences should contact their department/division (in many cases this would be the undergraduate chair or associate chair/dean). In addition, divisional offices (or



individuals) are also to provide advice regarding particular academic integrity issues or to discuss a specific situation. These include:

- Office of Student Academic Integrity, Faculty of Arts & Science at 416-946-0428 or osai.artsci@utoronto.ca
- Lisa Devereaux (Manager, Academic Affairs, Office of the Dean, UTM) at 905-569-4284 or lisa.devereaux@utoronto.ca
- Lucy Gaspini (Director, Academic Success & Integrity, Office of the Dean, UTM) at 905-828-3964 or lucy.gaspini@utoronto.ca
- [Prof. John Hannigan, Prof. Christine Berkowitz & Prof. Nick Cheng](#) (UTSC Dean's Designates for the Administration of the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters) at academic-integrity@utsc.utoronto.ca