

## WHAT IS TURNITIN?

Turnitin is a service available in ulearn to all faculty to aid with verifying originality of student work. Faculty using Turnitin are required to comply with the [Faculty Guidelines](#) for using Turnitin.

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### Originality Checking

Turnitin is a web-based service available to all faculty at all JWU campuses that verifies the originality of student work. The Turnitin Originality Report compares papers submitted by students with over 150 million previously submitted papers, 14 billion pages of web content, and more than 90,000 subscription-based journals and periodicals. Turnitin generates originality reports which indicate textual similarities between student papers and content in its database.

Turnitin does not determine if a student committed plagiarism. It is up to the faculty member to review the report and the student paper and make a determination on their own if plagiarism has occurred. Turnitin is simply a tool to aid faculty in detecting plagiarism. Even materials that have been cited properly will show up as being a textual match in the originality reports (unless you exclude them from the reports). Therefore, careful analysis of the originality reports and student papers is necessary before approaching a student about possible plagiarism. Students who appear to need assistance with proper citation methods can be referred to the [MLA Manual LibGuide](#).

Turnitin can be used not only for identifying cases of plagiarism. It can also be used as a teaching tool. Instructors have the option of allowing students to see their own originality reports or instructors can share originality reports with students. These reports can be used to teach students about proper usage of existing materials.

There are limitations to Turnitin. Although it is able to search billions of digital sources, Turnitin does not have access to printed materials available in the JWU libraries or in other libraries.

### Digital Grading

Digital Grading Faculty at JWU have access to Turnitin's [Feedback Studio](#) feature. Feedback Studio allows instructors to use a digital (paperless) workflow for grading/marking up papers and returning them to students.