

Using Turnitin.com In Your Courses

CONDITIONS OF USE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The use of Turnitin.com by our instructors is completely voluntary. Those wishing to use Turnitin.com in their courses must adhere to the following conditions of use:

- Turnitin.com is a tool that will assist in detecting textual similarities between compared works. Instructors must exercise their independent professional judgment in, and assume responsibility for, determining whether a text has been plagiarized or not.
- Students must be informed at the start of the course that the instructor will be using Turnitin.com. The course syllabus must include the following statement:

“Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays 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”.

(Please note: This statement cannot be altered in any way, but if you have written assignments that are not necessarily “essays” you can add an additional statement after this one referring to the course’s specific assignments, such as a proposal, etc.)

Turnitin.com is most effective when it is used by all students in a particular course; however, if and when students object to its use on principle, a reasonable offline alternative must be offered. There is a wide variety of non-electronic methods that can be used to deter and detect plagiarism; for example, to require that all rough work is handed in with the paper or that the student include an annotated bibliography with the paper. Instructors may wish to consult with the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation (CTSI) when establishing these alternatives. They can be contacted at (416) 946-3139 and ctsi.teaching@utoronto.ca.

For more information, please see the University of Toronto’s teaching resources page at <http://www.teaching.utoronto.ca/teaching/academicintegrity/turnitin.htm>.