Using Turnitin Via Blackboard

This tutorial will show you how to set up a Turnitin assignment through Blackboard. Turnitin can be a useful tool for both you and your students, as a means of promoting academic integrity and enhancing authentic writing skills.

The first thing you'll need to do is open up one of your courses in Blackboard. Next, navigate to the assignment that you wish to use Turnitin on. Depending on how the course is set up, this section may be called “Assignments,” “Course Content,” or it may be divided into individual weeks with course assignments listed out by week. Whatever it is called, Turnitin Assignments can be found in the section of the course where you normally see your weekly assignments listed. Under the "Assessments" tab, select "Turnitin Assignment".

Before you can use Turnitin in Blackboard, you must activate your Turnitin account. To activate your account, you must accept the terms and conditions. You will only need to agree to these the first time.

Here you will choose your assignment type. The basic option is a "Paper Assignment", and is required to be created first. "PeerMark Assignment" should be used when you would like students to be able to give feedback on their classmate's work. "Revision Assignments" should be used when the student will be expected to submit multiple drafts. These can be created as an addition to the basic "Paper Assignment".

Next you will be able to enter your assignment title, point value, and important dates. You can also limit the file types to only allow options that Turnitin is able to check for similarity. Down here, in the "Optional Settings", there are a few more choices you can make, especially in regards to the "Similarity Report". The "Similarity Report" can be generated either immediately after the assignment is submitted, with options to only allow one submission, or to overwrite until the due date, or the report can be generated just once, at the due date. By playing with the options here, you can choose some interesting details, such as whether to include the bibliography, quotations, and even whether or not the students can see their report. If you wish, you can even attach a rubric to the assignment, so students know exactly what they will be graded on.

After you hit "Submit" you will get a confirmation screen. Now you are able to see the assignment show up in Blackboard.

The "View/Complete" button is where students will submit their assignments. You can also choose this button if you wish to submit a paper on behalf of your students. As per FERPA guidelines, you MUST remove all identifiable ownership, including name, address, student ID, et cetera, if you submit papers on behalf of your students. Finally, if you wish to go in and edit the assignment at any time, simply do so by selecting the drop down arrow, and choose "Edit".

We hope you find Turnitin to be a useful tool for both you and your students. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the library for support.