

Plagiarism Detection Technology

Question:

We are seeking feedback from any institutions (that have D2L) using a tool other than TurnItIn for plagiarism detection. Which tool are you using, how effective is it, and overall experience with it?

- Hilary R. Burgess-Jackson, Compliance Coordinator, Sinclair College
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Answers:

I don't know of anyone state-side using it, but D2L just completed an integration for URKUND, which is a Swedish plagiarism detection platform with similarly rich database access. I asked them for a quote for a site license a few months ago it was much lower than the last quote I saw from TurnItIn. I haven't spoken with anyone using it. It might be worth posting a question to the Brightspace Community, or having one of your LMS support/admins do so.

- Andy Freed, Portland Community College
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Has anyone used SafeAssign? Do you have any comparisons with Turnitin vs Safe Assign? One of our campuses conducted a test with a PhD thesis with Turnitin vs Safe Assign. Turnitin showed 80% of the errors and Safe Assign found 60% of items cited incorrectly. Will we be able to get a compilation of responses from WCET on this topic?

- Cheryl Thompson, Learning Specialist, North Dakota University System
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As you are aware we are switching from Turnitin to SafeAssign with our move to Blackboard. I found a very interesting article about these two products when we first started conducting our RFP for a new LMS. In short, they both tend to underperform when tested in a control. From what I gleaned in this research, the best service these plagiarism tools offer is to act as a deterrent and warning to students of potentially



being caught. Relying on either to actually be the gatekeeper for plagiarism may leave one disappointed in the end.

- Scott Helphrey, Instructional Technology Manager, Bismarck State College

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At WSU we moved from Turnitin, which did not interface well with Blackboard, to Safe Assign. We posted some comparison information here: <https://teach.wsu.edu/academic-integrity/>

- Rebecca Vandevord, Washington State University

About:

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