

# QUICKSTART TO USING TURNITIN AT CQUNIVERSITY

## WHAT IS TURNITIN?

Turnitin is a text matching software, it doesn't detect plagiarism, but simply checks the text in your paper against its database of sources.

This includes billions of web pages, and millions of journals and periodicals, as well as papers previously submitted to Turnitin from your institution and other institutions all over the world.

Turnitin then flags similarities, or matches, to sources for review.



## YOUR 'SIMILARITY SCORE'

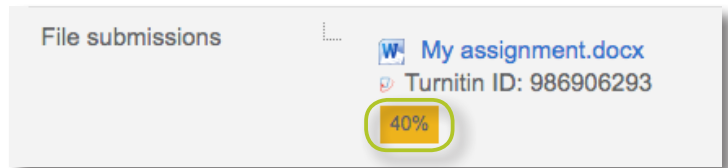
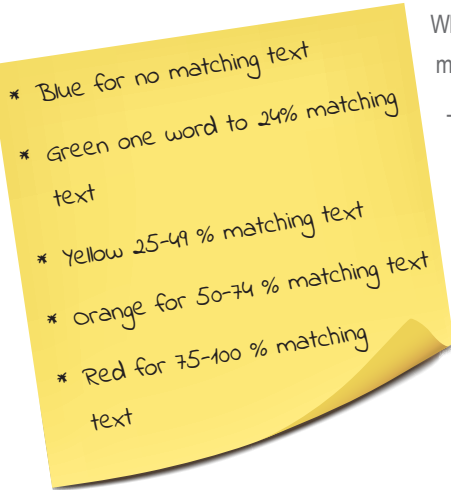
At CQUniversity your assignments are submitted to Turnitin from your Moodle assignment. Once uploaded in Moodle your paper will be queued in Turnitin and a 'Similarity Score' will be generated in a reasonably short time. Your Turnitin 'Similarity Score' is a learning tool that allows you to submit your paper as a draft, and then check the 'Similarity Score' report to ensure you have included all your references.

When you submit a paper to Turnitin, it calculates a 'Similarity Score' based on the percentage of the text that matches sources in its database. Your score is colour coded to visually represent the amount of matched text found.

There is no "acceptable score" it is simply an indication of matching text, which should be checked to ensure you have correctly cited and referenced all the sources used in your paper.

## ACCESSING YOUR 'SIMILARITY SCORE'

Once your Turnitin 'Similarity Score' report has been generated, you can view it from your Moodle assignment submission page. Clicking on the percentage score icon will take you into Feedback Studio, where you can then view your 'Similarity Score'.



## INTERPRETING YOUR 'SIMILARITY SCORE'

When your 'Similarity Score' report opens you will see the interface below. On the left-hand side of the page you will see the text of your paper, any text that matches to a source in Turnitin's database will be colour-coded and numbered to correspond to the Match overview on the right-hand side of the page.

At the top of the 'Match overview' you will see the overall percentage of text that Turnitin has matched in your paper, and below that a breakdown of the matches found.

Clicking on a the number for a match within the paper's text, shows you the match in-context with its original source for comparison.



Clicking the arrow shows you the next match in the paper. Clicking the text icon shows you the full text source for the match. However, if the match is another student's paper it will not be available for viewing.

And clicking the arrow for a source will show you the 'Match breakdown', or all sources for that text match. As you may have used an alternate source than the first match suggested by Turnitin.

In summary, your Turnitin 'Similarity Score' is a learning tool that allows you to submit your paper as a draft, and then check the 'Similarity Score' report to ensure you have correctly cited all of the source included all your paper.

The matched text is highlighted and number/colour coded for easy reference.

Similarity index—the percentage of text within the paper that has been matched to other sources.

Match overview—provides the suggested original sources, plus a percentage breakdown of how much text is matched against each entry.

Match	Source	Percentage
1	en.wikipedia.org	17%
2	animals.nationalgeogr...	14%
3	www.squidoo.com	12%

Match	Source	Percentage
1	en.wikipedia.org	36%