



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Understanding Academic Misconduct

Session 1:

Plagiarism, Turnitin & Self-Plagiarism

Trawsnewid Addysg, Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education, Transforming Lives

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What are we learning?

- By the end of the short session you should be able to:
 - Explain what plagiarism and self-plagiarism mean.;
 - Understand what a Turnitin Similarity Report is showing you;
 - Tell the difference between a match that is OK and a match that you need to check or change;

Key terms

Academic integrity means doing your university work in an honest way.

Your work should show your own learning, and you should make it clear when you have used ideas, information or words from someone else.

UWTSD describes plagiarism as presenting another person's work or ideas as your own. It also identifies self-plagiarism as reusing work that you have already submitted for another assessment when this is not permitted.

Complete the matching task to check that you understand the key terms and why they are important.

Sort and Match

Did you find the task easy or difficult?

Which word was the most challenging?

Plagiarism

Source

Self-Plagiarism

Citation

Reference

Quotation

Paraphrasing

Similarity

Simple explanation

A short acknowledgement in your writing showing the source you used, for example (NICE, 2015).

Why do I need to know this?

It connects your statement to the source you used.

Simple explanation

The fuller details of a source, normally given in your reference list.

Why do I need to know this?

It helps your reader find and check the source.

Simple explanation

Reusing work that you have already submitted for another assessment when you are not allowed to do so.

Why do I need to know this?

You wrote it, but it is still previous assessed work. Do not assume you can copy it into a new assignment.

Simple explanation

The place where information or an idea came from, such as a book, journal article, NICE guidance or NHS webpage.

Why do I need to know this?

Your reader needs to know where your information came from

Simple explanation

Using the exact words from a source and clearly showing that they are someone else's words.

Why do I need to know this?

Exact words need to be clearly acknowledged rather than presented as your own writing.

Simple explanation

Using another person's words or ideas as if they were your own.

Why do I need to know this?

At university, you need to show where information and ideas have come from.

Simple explanation

Reading an idea, understanding it and explaining it in your own words.

Why do I need to know this?

Changing only a few words is not enough. The source still needs to be acknowledged.

Simple explanation

Text in your assignment that Turnitin has found to be similar to text elsewhere.

Why do I need to know this?

A match does not automatically mean plagiarism. You need to look at what has matched and why.

Using a source

International Psychogeriatrics (2012), 24:3, 472–483 © International Psychogeriatric Association 2011
doi:10.1017/S1041610211001700

Relationships between gender, age, family conditions, physical and mental health, and social isolation of elderly caregivers

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A Journal Article

An extract from
the article.

Introduction

Increasing life expectancy and the growing number of people aged 80 years and above in the population have led to a higher number of elderly caregivers who are caring for other aged persons for longer periods than in the past. Over several years they will

Student writing examples

Extract from student writing	Classification
Increasing life expectancy and the growing number of people aged 80 years and above in the population have led to a higher number of elderly caregivers.	 Plagiarism
Increasing life expectancy and the growing number of people aged 80 years and above have led to more elderly caregivers (Neri et al., 2012).	 Poor academic practice
Neri et al. (2012) explain that people are living longer. This means that more older people are now caring for other older adults, often for longer periods.	 Good paraphrasing
People are living longer. This means that some older people may need to care for someone else. Neri et al. (2012) explain that more older people are now providing care.	 Good academic writing



Turnitin Similarity scores

Turnitin is a tool used to help students and tutors check academic work. When you submit your work, Turnitin compares the text with material in its databases from universities globally.

This may include webpages, published material and other student submissions. It then produces a Similarity Report, which highlights text that matches other sources.

The report also gives an overall similarity score, shown as a percentage. For example, a score of **20%** means that Turnitin has found text in the submission that matches material in its databases.

It does not mean that 20% of the work is plagiarised. UWTSD guidance makes clear that the similarity percentage is not an absolute way of identifying academic misconduct; the matches need to be considered using academic judgement.

Activity

Similarity: Look Beyond the Score

Work in pairs to sort the cards into three categories: Safe, Check and Change before submission

Safe

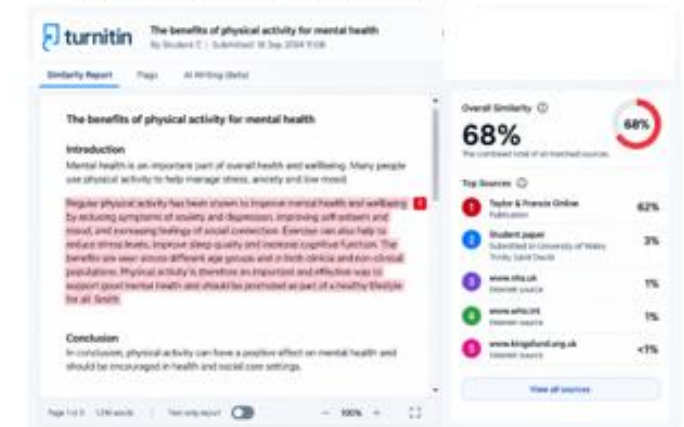
Check

Change

1. Assignment title matches the assessment brief



3. A 90-word paragraph closely matching a journal article with only the author's name added at the end.



Further Learning

Use UWTSD's [Referencing and Plagiarism InfoSkills unit](#) and [Referencing Handbooks](#). The Library's Academic and InfoSkills programme provides self-directed units and appointment support.



[Digital Services](#) » [Digital Learning & Library Services](#) » [Academic and InfoSkills](#) » [Referencing and Plagiarism](#)



Referencing and Plagiarism

This Unit helps you to understand why referencing is important and which of the 4 recognised referencing standards you should be using.

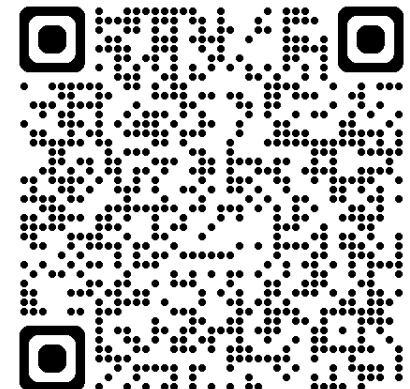
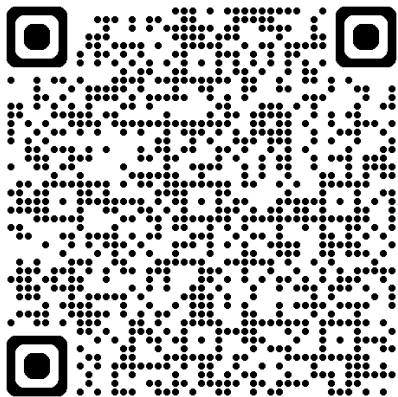


[Digital Services](#) » [Digital Learning & Library Services](#) » [Academic and InfoSkills](#) » [Referencing Handbooks](#)



Referencing Handbooks

Referencing correctly is an essential skill. When writing an assignment, you will be expected to acknowledge other people's work by referencing them in a recognized and consistent format.





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References

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