UNIVERSITY of the ROCKIES™

Purpose: To assist students understand the processes and procedures on the Turnitin resource in the Online Classroom

1. What is Turnitin?

Turnitin is an online resource that allows students to submit their papers and have them checked for originality and proper use of citations. Turnitin can help highlight passages in a student's paper that match other sources and help students avoid unintentional plagiarism.

2. Are students required to use Turnitin?

No, instructors cannot make this a course requirement. Students' use of this resource is strictly voluntary.

3. What is the difference between a "Faculty Submissions" folder and a "Student Submissions" folder?

The "Faculty Submissions" folder is:
- Created for all assignments for the course
- Used exclusively by the instructor
- Used to upload papers to check for originality and proper use of citations
- Used to add a paper to a repository

The "Student Submissions" folder is:
- Created for all assignments for the course
- Used exclusively by the student
- Used to upload their own work to check for originality and proper use of citations
- *Important Note*: Papers uploaded to the Student "Student Submissions" folder are not added to the repository

4. Since students can utilize the Turnitin resource, does the instructor have a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism?

Since Turnitin is an originality tool that identifies unattributed and misattributed material, as well as commonly used words or phrases, instructors are expected to carefully analyze the Originality Report to determine potential academic dishonesty.

- If the instructor analyzes the report, and a student has cited the information properly, it will still show in the document as something that is pulled from another source. It is then the responsibility of the instructor to determine if it was cited properly in the document. If it was properly cited, then it is not considered plagiarism. If it wasn't properly cited, or cited at all, then it is considered plagiarism. The instructor can then file an Academic Dishonesty report on a student at his/her discretion.