

About SafeAssign

Tool Summary

SafeAssign is a plagiarism prevention tool that is part of the Blackboard learning management system. It helps you prevent plagiarism by detecting unoriginal content in student papers. SafeAssign can also help you educate students about plagiarism and the importance of proper attribution.

You can set up an assignment in Blackboard where students submit their papers directly to SafeAssign or, you, as a faculty member, can submit papers to SafeAssign on an individual basis.

SafeAssign checks all submitted papers against the following databases:

- *Internet* - comprehensive index of documents available for public access on the Internet
- *ProQuest ABI/Inform database* with over 1,100 publication titles and about 2.6 million articles from '90s to present time, updated weekly (exclusive access)
- *Institutional document archives* containing all papers submitted to SafeAssign by users in their respective institutions
- *Global Reference Database* containing papers that were volunteered by students from Blackboard client institutions to help prevent cross-institutional plagiarism.

After checking the paper, SafeAssign generates an originality report with the results of the matching process. Any material in the paper that is shown to match something from the database is highlighted along with the resource from which it came. Depending on if your assignment was set up to have the student submit the paper, the student will receive an originality report also.

Why Use It?

- SafeAssign can detect plagiarism and help you educate your students about it.
- The originality reports generated by SafeAssign are a tangible expression of potential plagiarism to your students. Students can see exactly what was plagiarized, unintentionally or not.
- With SafeAssign, you don't have to rely solely on your instincts to determine if something was plagiarized (unless you want to), and you will save time because you won't have to look up various sources to find the plagiarism.

Real World Applications

- Dr. Perry is teaching a freshman-level composition course and wants to teach her students about plagiarism. By having students submit rough drafts of their papers through SafeAssign, she can show them if they have plagiarized and then explain to them how to avoid plagiarism in the future.
- Dr. Jones is grading research papers and feels certain that one of the papers has been plagiarized. He doesn't have lots of time to look up resources, but wants to verify the plagiarism. He can run the paper through the SafeAssign databases to see if any plagiarism is detected.

If you have further questions, please contact the ITS Support Center at 312-329-4067 or its@moody.edu.