Academic Integrity: Plagiarism Management in Context

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24 Apr 2012
edveNTUre
Date of Birth: 17 May 2000

• depicts learning as an adventure to explore new frontiers of knowledge and that our NTU students are adventurous, creative and techno-savvy

e: electronic, everything!
ed: education
edveNTUre: our university’s name “NTU” is embedded
edveNTUre: eLearning Eco-System
http://edventure.ntu.edu.sg
Plagiarism Detection

• Challenge in digital age
• Level playing field and fairness
• Code of Honour
Timeline: Technology and Tool And Policy

- Pre-AY 2005/06: Honour Code

- AY 2005/06: SafeAssignment was introduced
  - SafeAssignment was renamed Safe Assign after its acquisition by Blackboard Inc in 2009

- AY2010/11: Safe Assign was complemented/replaced by Turnitin OriginalityCheck

- AY2012/13: Turnitin2 (includes OriginalityCheck, PeerMark, GradeMark and e-Rater for grammar check) will be introduced
Safe Assignment

Report Information
- Author: Student
- Submitted: 08/18/04 23:24:22
- Paper ID: 2345

Suspected Sources
- http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue7/search-engines/
- http://www.usenix.org/techniques/agents.htm
- http://www.hermans.org/agents/h32.htm

Re-process paper without these sources

Manuscript Text
EVALUATION OF INTELLIGENT SEARCH AGENTS
Abstract: An Intelligent Search Agent is a computer program that is capable of performing online and off-line searching on behalf of internet users. The software is able to launch agents that can traverse the World Wide Web and exchange information with other agents in retrieving information. The aim of this research is to evaluate how effective the Intelligent Search Agents are in retrieving relevant information. A literature review is carried out to assess the current status and the latest developments of research into Intelligent Agents available in the IT industry. The evaluation of the effectiveness and relevance of the search agents is performed by the Alexander Institute of Intelligent Systems and by the authors. The documents retrieved by the agents are more precise and relevant to user needs.
Discover the tools and strategies we can use to manage plagiarism.

Plagiarism is regarded as a very serious offence by the University. It is considered as an instance of violation of the NTU Honour Code which could warrant disciplinary actions ranging from failing the assignment, failing the course, suspension and ultimately to expulsion from the University.
Academic Integrity @ NTU

Value

Module

Quiz

Academic Integrity
Shared Values

Not Policy, Rules, Punishments...
Shared Values at NTU

• **Learning** is based on scholarship and research, where the creation of new knowledge, ideas, and understanding, is built on existing knowledge and ideas.

• **Faculty** is central to the conduct of research and teaching.

• **Students** should learn how to use existing knowledge in an open and transparent way, in order to develop new learning.

• **The NTU Honour Code** encapsulates the shared values of the whole NTU community in relation to Academic Integrity.
Shared Values At NTU

- For all students and faculty at NTU, learning is based on scholarship and research, where the creation of new knowledge, ideas, and understanding, is built on existing knowledge and ideas.

- For students, particularly undergraduates, it is important to learn how to use existing knowledge in an open and transparent way, in order to develop new learning.
NTU Honour Code

The Honour Code assumes the academic, intellectual and ethical standards based on following beliefs

Truth
Trust
Justice

which the University also expects of its students in every sphere of their activities

Source: http://www.ntu.edu.sg/sao/Pages/HonourCode.aspx
Understanding Academic Integrity
Freshmen Orientation and Recitation of the Honour Code
Academic Integrity and Your Success at NTU

Understanding and practising academic integrity is vital to success in your studies at NTU, and to your professional life when you graduate from NTU. But as a new student, you may not yet understand what is meant by academic integrity, and what is required of you. Often, academic integrity is described as the avoidance of plagiarism, but it can also include the avoidance of academic fraud. This short introduction is designed to give you a brief outline of what you need to know and where you can go to find out more.
The Academic Integrity Module consists of these two components:

- A Guide to Academic Integrity
- A Quiz in edveNTUre

Important note

All freshmen are required to complete the Academic Integrity quiz in the first semester of their first year of undergraduate studies before the recess period. They must obtain a 100% pass score. The module will be available on edveNTUre. Schools will monitor the participation of their students.
Closing the Loop with the Quiz
The Quiz

**Preview Test: Academic Integrity Quiz**

**Description:** Academic Integrity Quiz for new undergraduate students 2011-2012

**Instructions:** Please read the NTU Academic Integrity website http://academicintegrity.ntu.edu.sg, the University Policy, and the Module carefully before proceeding with this Academic Integrity Quiz.

**Multiple Attempts:** This Test allows multiple attempts.

**Force Completion:** This Test can be saved and resumed later.

**Test/Survey Status**

**Question 1**

Read the passage in the box, then say whether a) or b) is the correct way to reference:

“In Asian culture, silence is traditionally a sign of respect for elders. Furthermore, silence by many Chinese and Japanese is not a floor-yielding signal inviting others to pick up the conversation. Rather, it may indicate a desire to continue speaking after making a particular point. Often silence is a sign of politeness and respect rather than a lack of desire to continue speaking.”

Reference (APA style)

- a. Often silence is a sign of politeness and respect rather than a desire to continue speaking (Sue & Sue, 2003, p.131).
- b. According to prominent multicultural researchers, Derald Wing Sue and David Sue, (2003, p. 131) many Asians often prefer to keep silent as they think this is more polite, not because they want to keep on speaking.
The Quiz

Question 2
Cutting and pasting material from the internet without using quotation marks around the portion cut and pasted and without referencing. This type of academic misconduct falls under:

- a. Collusion
- b. Plagiarism
- c. Falsifying data
- d. Cheating

Question 3
Your lecturer has given you an individual assignment for your Information Technology Lab class. The assignment sheet clearly states that you should solve the problem given without consulting with anyone. Just after class, your classmate, Alex, says that he doesn’t understand the assignment. You sit down with him for two hours and work through the assignment with him. A week later, you submit your assignment.
A week after that, your lecturer sends you an email to say that you have shown Academic Misconduct and that you will be penalised and you will receive a 0 mark for your assignment. The lecturer says that your assignment is identical to one submitted by Alex.
This type of misconduct is:

- a. Plagiarism
- b. Lack of referencing
- c. Cheating
- d. Collusion
- e. Falsifying data

Question 4
Working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently. This type of academic misconduct falls under:

- a. Collusion
- b. Plagiarism
- c. Falsifying data
The Quiz
when 100% means Perfection!
The End (of the Quiz)
Plagiarism Management
Sustainability is the Key
“Students are required to check all written assignments through electronic text-matching software adopted by the University to detect plagiarism or possible acts of academic dishonesty.”
“If we use technology to do something only more effectively, we miss the mark entirely. We need to change what we teach and why we teach it.”
For Students:

- Turnitin should not be used as a tool for “catching” plagiarism
- Originality reports are to be used by students to check themselves for improperly cited or inadequately cited material
- Permission for resubmission must be set by the instructor when the assignment is created
For Instructors:

• Key is assessment design
• Percentage numbers do not directly indicate level of plagiarism or when plagiarism has occurred.
• Every assignment must be carefully read by the instructor for them to determine if a highlighted section is really plagiarism or items in the reference list or actual quotations.
School Academic Integrity Officers (SAIOs)

- Touch point of academic integrity issues for the school
- Keep records of offenders
  - for reference and history
- Sets the standard for the school practice
  - Levels of originality can depend on discipline of studies
- Sets standards and guidance for penalties
- Attend workshops on academic integrity practices and management
Results and Outcomes
## SafeAssignment Utilization Statistics

**User:** chyeseng  
**Period:** 2005-08-09 - 2005-09-08

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Number of Papers</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0% - 10%</td>
<td>699</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% - 30%</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>30% - 50%</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% - 70%</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% - 100%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
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</table>

- **Total papers:** 963  
- **Instructor submissions:** 1  
- **Total courses:** 38  
- **Total assignments:** 48  
- **Avg. papers/course/assignment:** 25

*Lifetime papers submitted (incl. deleted): 4672*
## Usage of Turnitin @ NTU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Instructors(^\wedge)</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AY2010/11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sem I</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>3,582</td>
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<td>AY2010/11</td>
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<td>Sem II</td>
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<td>11,845</td>
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<td>AY2011/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>AY2011/12</td>
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<td>Sem II(^*)</td>
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<td>17,551</td>
<td>17,279</td>
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\(^\wedge\) Incl. Faculty, Staff and Teaching Assistants

\(^*\) Up to Mar 2012
# Distribution of Turnitin Matching Scores

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<th>Semester</th>
<th>75-100%</th>
<th>50-74%</th>
<th>25-49%</th>
<th>0-24%</th>
<th>&lt; 20 words</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AY2010/11 Sem I</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY2010/11 Sem II</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY2011/12 Sem I</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY2011/12 Sem II*</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Up to Mar 2012
Academic Integrity Education

Year 1: Plagiarism

Year 2: Copyright

Year 3: Ethics personal, professional, business

Year 4: Intellectual Property
and

One Last Thing
Useful Web Resources

The elements of a proposal by Frank Pajares, Emory University
Guide on how to write a good research proposal
http://www.des.emory.edu/mfp/proposal.html

Writing and presenting your thesis or dissertation by S. Joseph Levine, Michigan State University
Detailed guide to writing your thesis/dissertation, from proposal to oral defense
http://www.learnerassociates.net/dissthes/

The literature review by Deakin University
Why and how to write a literature review

Academic Writing

LearntuLearn
Equip yourself for success at NTU!
Students who ask better questions, are independent learners, deep thinkers and ethical leaders of the future.
Thank You!

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