

MEMORANDUM, DCD #6, 2021-22

To: Chairs, University of Toronto Scarborough
Cc: Chairs' Assistants, Departmental/Undergraduate Assistants & Coordinators
From: Professor Katherine R. Larson, Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs
Professor James Donaldson, Vice-Dean Recruitment, Enrolment & Student Success
Date: 31 August 2021
Re: **Ouriginal - New Plagiarism Detection Tool**
Note: For distribution to all department faculty

Dear colleagues,

We are writing to update you on a change to technology as we approach the Fall term: the University of Toronto is ending its contract with TurnItIn and will be shifting to a new plagiarism detection tool, *Ouriginal*, beginning September 1, 2021.

Details about this shift, along with important next steps for instructors who have been using TurnItIn, can be found here: <https://act.utoronto.ca/pdt-change/>

Instructors who have been using TurnItIn have been contacted directly by Academic & Collaborative Technologies. We recognize that this change is coming at a very challenging time for planning purposes. The University will be following up with Procurement Services to underscore that any future changes to teaching-related technologies should take place well before August.

The University has been [recommending more generic syllabus language](#) for plagiarism detection in anticipation of the change to TurnItIn usage. It is crucial to note as well that **there will be little impact on the interface that instructors and students use for submitting assignments**. This has been managed via Quercus since 2017. Any syllabus language that still directly references TurnItIn, however, should be updated for Fall courses, and faculty should no longer use TurnItIn for assignment submissions. Any existing or new assignments in Quercus course shells should be set up to link to *Ouriginal*: <https://act.utoronto.ca/pdt-change/>

Assignments that were previously submitted to TurnItIn have been loaded into *Ouriginal* to ensure that students may not re-submit previously used course material.

To learn more about the plagiarism detection software - <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/46670/pages/integration-plagiarism-detection-tool>. Instructors can email quercus.uts@utoronto.ca for direct assistance.

Enclosed below are updated teaching technology resources from the Centre for Teaching & Learning (CTL) to support instructors:

The *Teaching with Zoom*, <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/209988/pages/teaching-with-zoom> and *Teaching with Teams* <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/209988/pages/teaching-with-microsoft-teams> guides have been updated to include answers to many questions CTL has received in recent weeks.

CTL has been offering drop-ins for Zoom and Teams. Upcoming sessions include:

- Teaching with Zoom drop-in: [Thursday Sept 2, 1-1:40pm](#) and [Thursday Sept 9, 1-1:40pm](#) (with passcode 0123456789)
- Teaching with MS Teams drop-in: [Thursday Sept 2, 2-2:40pm](#) and [Thursday Sept 9, 2-2:40pm](#)

“How to Choose” Guide: <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/209988/pages/comparing-synchronous-teaching-tools> This guide is being updated this week to outline important differences in key areas for Zoom and MS Teams: breakout, whiteboard, ease of use vs. access controls, recording & archival, and course capacity limits.

For specific questions please contact quercus.utsc@utoronto.ca.

Kind regards,



Katherine R. Larson

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