Advice for students regarding Turnitin and AI writing detection.

Cunningham Centre does not allow the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools across its current courses. Our courses require students to use critical thinking in providing responses to assessment.

Turnitin is a plagiarism detection tool used by educational institutions to assess the originality of a student's work.

This guideline is to inform students of the new artificial intelligence (AI) Turnitin tool that identifies material that has potentially been written by AI software eg. ChatGPT. This AI tool is in the early stages of development and currently only assessors can view scores. Students will not see any score.

The AI tool looks for patterns in the English language which match those used by AI when writing content. Assessors will see a percentage score that indicates the amount of the assessment that the AI tool is confident was generated by AI.

As with the similarity report generated by Turnitin, the result of the AI writing detector tool is a prompt for further investigation.

Should there be a suspicion that part or all of your submitted assessment has been produced using generative AI, you may be asked to explain your assessment and argument (how you developed the argument, what sources you used, how you reached the conclusion you did), or to provide drafts or notes of early versions of the assessment.

The Turnitin AI writing detector is a new tool and has only been in use by the Cunningham Centre since early 2023. There may be circumstances where the tool incorrectly identifies content that was not generated by AI. In this case, you may be asked to discuss or explain components of your assessment task. Please understand that this alone is not an accusation of academic dishonesty and you will be afforded an opportunity to provide evidence that demonstrates that the work was your own. Examples of evidence include written notes, early drafts etc.

As AI detection tools are a continuously advancing technology the ability for assessors to detect AI is expected to improve. Therefore, the specifics of how we detect AI maybe subject to change, but your right to respond will remain.

As the use of AI tools are not permitted, the use of such tools in preparation of an assessment, is considered academic dishonesty. Any student who commits academic dishonesty is subject to the penalties outlined in *PU8210.7 Academic dishonest and professional transgression guideline*.

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