



# Introduction to Online Assessment



EPS eLearning Team

Welcome to an Introduction to Online Assessment

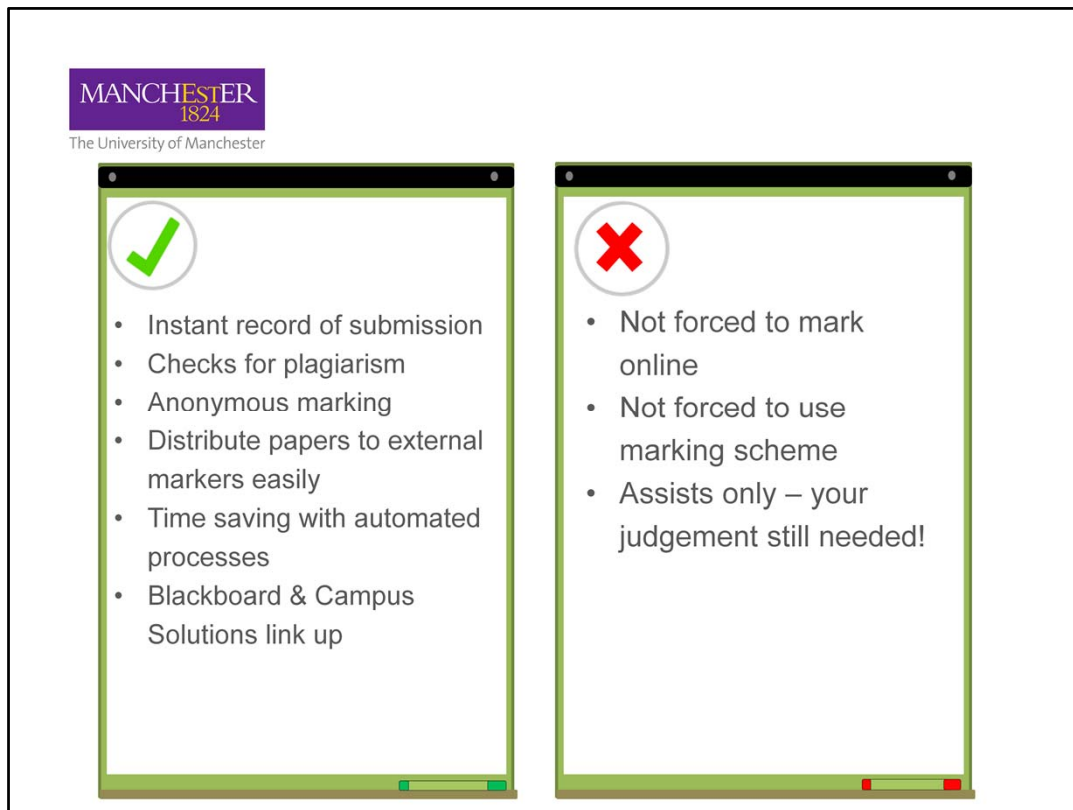
## What are we going to cover?

- Benefits of online assessment
- What tools are available
- Key features
- Considerations

What will this video cover? Firstly, the benefits of online assessment, the tools that are available at the University, the key features of these tools and considerations to make when using online assessment.

**What does online assessment do...  
Or not do?**

So, what does online assessment do... or not do?



Firstly, what online assessment does:

When students submit their assignments online, they receive an instant record of their submission with a submission receipt for their reference.

Extra tools can be used to check the originality of students' work.

Submission online makes it easier to comply with the need for anonymous marking.

It is easier to distribute papers to external markers.

Marking can be done entirely online, which may help to save time.

Marks are automatically copied from Blackboard to Campus Solutions, reducing errors and saving time.

What online assessment doesn't do:

It does not force you to mark online if you are not happy doing so. You can still print out assignments and mark them in pen if you wish.

It does not force you to use an imposed marking scheme.

It does not provide an absolute answer to whether a student has plagiarised or colluded with others; you must use originality tools as a guide and use your own judgement.

## What tools are available?



What tools are available at the University? The University currently makes use of Turnitin and the Blackboard Assignment Tool.

## Key Features: Turnitin

- Originality checking (plagiarism)
- Single file submission
- Maximum file size 20mb
- Anonymous marking
- Individual submission
- Accepts a wide range of file types
  - Must be text based to use Originality Reports (e.g. Word, PDF, etc)

### Key features of Turnitin:

You can utilise Turnitin's Originality Checking tool, this checks against millions of internet sources, journals and articles as well as student submissions

It allows single file submission. If your students are expected to submit multiple files, Turnitin may not be the most suitable option.

The maximum file size is 20MB, you should be aware of this if your students are expected to include high resolution images in their submissions.

Turnitin allows you to enable anonymous marking and removes all student names and ID numbers.

Turnitin does not support group submission, all individuals must submit work.

Turnitin accepts a wide range of file types. If you wish to make use of originality checking, students should submit a text document, such as a Word doc, a PDF or Open Office document

## Key Features: Blackboard

- SafeAssign originality checking (plagiarism)
- Multiple file submission
- Maximum file size 2gb
- Anonymous marking
- Individual & group submission
- Delegated marking
- Accepts all file types
  - Must be text based to use SafeAssign (e.g. Word, PDF, etc)

### Key features of Blackboard:

The Blackboard assignment tool has its own originality checker known as SafeAssign. This checks against internet sources, journals and articles as well as student submissions. It should be noted that the database is not as large as the repository used by Turnitin

Students can submit multiple files to Blackboard, all of which will be recognised as one submission

The maximum file size for submissions is 2GB.

Blackboard also supports anonymous marking

The assignment tool supports both individual and group assignments.

Submission is only required by one group member, the submission is then automatically shared with other group members.

Blackboard also supports delegated marking. This enables multiple markers to mark individual students and allows grades to be reconciled and agreed upon before being released.

Blackboard accepts all file types. Similar to Turnitin, to make use of SafeAssign, students should submit a text document.

### Considerations:

- Originality
- Anonymity
- Multiple Markers
- Moderation/External Marking
- Late Submission
- Internet connection
- What are students submitting (File types, file size, etc)
- Individual or group submissions

What considerations should you make before using online assessment?

Firstly, does your assessment need to be anonymous, both Turnitin and Blackboard cater for this need, but you should be aware that if a student has submitted anonymously and you decide to disable the anonymity you will not be able to re-enable anonymity.

Do you require multiple markers? Both Blackboard and Turnitin will allow multiple markers, however, only Blackboard will allow multiple markers to mark the same submission without affecting the grade given by another marker.

External markers can gain access to online submissions and view the marking

Both systems will allow and highlight late submissions in their respective assignment inboxes

In order to mark using the online tools you will require an internet connection, however there are ways to mark offline using traditional marking methods.

You should also be aware of what you are asking your students to submit.

Remember, you can only generate originality reports on text based files. If you are expecting your students to submit high resolution images, ensure they have the means to do so.

Online assessment facilitates both individual and group submissions, but you should be aware of the processes of the available tools to ensure you choose the most appropriate one.



## Which tool should I use?

	Turnitin	Blackboard
Originality Report	✓	✓
Multiple File Submission	X	✓
Maximum File Size	20MB	2GB
Anonymous Marking	✓	✓
Group Submission	➤	✓
Marking Distribution	✓	✓

- ✓ Functionality available
- X Functionality currently unavailable
- Workaround available

This table outlines the major differences between Turnitin and Blackboard. Before deciding on a tool, you should think about how you are assessing your students and understand how these tools will affect your assessments in practice. If you are unsure you should contact the eLearning team who can further advise you.

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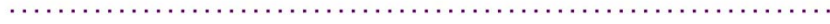
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Now that you have an idea which assignment submission tool is best for you, please book on one of our training courses where we can take you through how to set up assignment submissions, how to mark students' work, interpret similarity reports and provide feedback. You can book onto our training courses through the Training and Development website accessible from Staffnet.

Once you have accessed the training catalogue, please search for EPSELT. This will show all the courses that the EPS eLearning team are currently offering. You will be able to book onto one of our available courses, or add yourself to the waiting list for a future course.;



**Thank you**



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Thank you for watching our introduction to online assessment. If you have any questions or would like assistance in setting up online assessment please contact us through one of the methods below.