

General Information about VeriCite

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What is VeriCite?

- VeriCite is a plagiarism detection service that identifies potentially plagiarized or improperly cited text. The service automatically checks submitted work against an ever-increasing index of online sources including the ever-growing UO repository of papers.

How does VeriCite work?

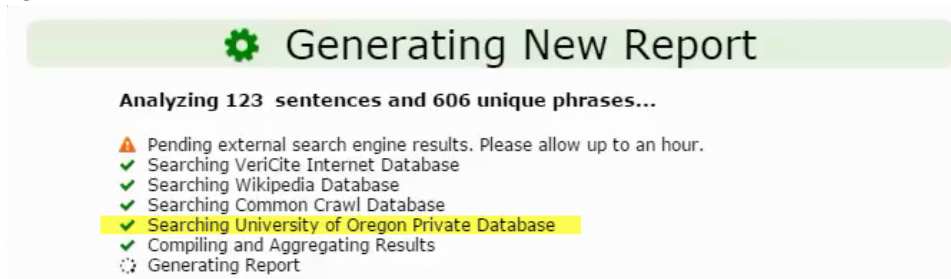
- VeriCite accepts submission files in any file format (e.g. pptx, html, docx, pdf, txt, rtf, ppt, doc, odf, etc.). Students can also copy and paste their paper into the submission box. VeriCite converts the student submission into plain text and excludes any quoted material. The rest of the text is then compared for exact matches with existing source material. VeriCite uses string matching methods, along with a series of algorithms and scoring processes, to identify matching texts. A final report with an overview score is presented to the user. The report also indicates different levels or amounts of matching per submission with a clickable link to the matching text and its sources.
- VeriCite reports are created on demand every single time you click to view the report. This means that there is no waiting for the report; all reports are delivered instantly. Reports are also non-static. If a student submits a paper and gets a plagiarized score of 0, and then another student in another class submits the same paper, then both reports and plagiarism scores will update to 100 to show that they have plagiarized. This dynamic updating can help prevent cases where groups of students or paper mills share the same paper.
- All submitted papers are indexed in a completely encrypted form then stored securely in a repository that is specific to each subscribing institution. Additionally, the institution maintains full ownership and control of their repository materials.

Can I use VeriCite in Canvas?

- VeriCite works within the Assignments tool as an **External Tool** submission type. When students submit assignments in Canvas, their reports are generated and available within the Assignments area via the VeriCite LTI integration. Grades entered into the LTI tool are also automatically sent to the Canvas Gradebook.
- VeriCite does not currently work with the Canvas Speed Grader. You can tie the Canvas rubric tool to the assignment prior to making it a VeriCite assignment.
- NOTE: Please sync your roster by going to Setup and Sync Canvas Roster. Students add and drop during the term so a best practice is to sync your roster before grading submissions.

What databases is VeriCite scanning against?

- When you click "View Report" in the VeriCite interface, a pop-up will appear to show you what databases/repositories VeriCite is actively scanning against to generate the report. (See the following screenshot for reference)



- VeriCite compares student submissions against data that have been encrypted from millions of academically-related websites, both public and private, including books, journals, articles, open educational resources and much more. For example, the 4.6 million articles in the English edition of Wikipedia have been indexed and Longsight is negotiating with commercial vendors to include their periodical and book databases in the process.
- The VeriCite crawler was initiated with a “seed” list of several thousand key academic resources that are commonly plagiarized. The VeriCite crawler continuously indexes each of those sites and all the sites that are linked within those sites and beyond. Academically-related sites most often link to other academically oriented sites, and to sites that provide additional topical information for their site visitors (all potentially plagiarized material). We are constantly adding new sites to the list based on our crawling process, manual additions to the seed list, and negotiated permissions to add new resources.
- In addition, each institution has their own private repository in which all student submissions for that institution are stored and used for comparison. Longsight can even index papers from prior term courses in order to populate the private repository with several years' worth of student work. All papers stored in this private repository remain the property of the institution and are removed from the VeriCite database if the institution discontinues the service.
- The index is massive and continuously growing. More than 50 million academically-related websites (approaching billions of pages) have been indexed to date. Approximately one million new sites are added to the comparison repository each day.

What web browsers are supported for VeriCite?

- Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the recommended browsers.
- **Note:** VeriCite will not work in Safari.