Faculty: How to Read SafeAssign Reports in Bb 9.1

SafeAssign is an application that submits papers to an outside database and compares them to all documents/sources in the database in search of plagiarized material. The database also retains a copy of the submitted papers so that future submissions can be compared as well. Once the submitted papers pass through the system, reports are generated for individual papers that give the percentage of ‘matching’ (possibly plagiarized) material in each paper.

Finding and Opening SafeAssign Originality Reports

1. Open the course in which you wish to view SafeAssign reports.
2. Enter the Grade Center.
3. Find the assignment grade for which you wish to view the report, hover your mouse over the grade cell, and click on the gray circle with arrow to open a dropdown menu.
4. Select View Grade Details from this dropdown menu
5. On the Grade Details screen, click the Grade Attempt button:

Understanding SafeAssign Originality Reports

1. The SafeAssign report now displayed contains four sections:
   a. Paper Information: This section lists data about the paper, such as the author, percent Matching, and when it was submitted. This section also includes options for downloading the report, emailing the report, or viewing a printable version. Note that
the printable version may be the most effective view of the report for those users that rely on assistive technologies to access Blackboard Learn Course Delivery.

b. Submission Comment: This section includes any text the student included in the comment section provided during the submission process.

c. Suspected Sources: This section lists the sources that have text that matches the text of the submitted paper. Instructors may select sources, exclude them from the review, and process the paper again. This is useful if a source is a previous work from the same student for the same assignment, or if there is some reason that lengthy sections of a particular source appear in the paper. Processing the paper again will generate a new value for the percent matching without using the excluded sources.

d. Paper Text: This section shows the submitted paper. All matching blocks of text are identified. Clicking a matching block of text will display information about the original source and the probability that the block or sentence was copied from the source.

2. Interpreting SafeAssign Scores:
   a. Overall score under the ‘Matching’ column is an indicator of what percentage of the submitted paper matches existing sources. This score is a warning indicator only and papers should be reviewed to see if the matches are properly attributed.
      i. Scores below %15: These papers typically include some quotes and few common phrases or blocks of text that match other documents. These papers typically do not require further analysis, as there is no evidence of the possibility of plagiarism in these papers.
      ii. Scores between %15 - %40: These papers include extensive quoted or paraphrased material or they may include plagiarism. These papers should be reviewed to determine if the matching content is properly attributed.
      iii. Score over %40: There is a very high probability that text in this paper was copied from other sources. These papers include quoted or paraphrased text in excess and should be reviewed for plagiarism.

NOTE: See the following for a visual demonstration of the above description of Safe Assign Reports: http://safeassign.com/sa-report.html