Setting up a Turnitin assignment

Several assignment types on QMplus "Advanced uploading of files", "Upload a single file" and "Submission Manager" can be linked to the Turnitin plagiarism detection service simply by editing their settings. There is, however, a separate Turnitin assignment type which provides a slightly different experience. It provides access to a broader range of Turnitin functionality than the other assignment types. In particular:

- Staff can submit on behalf of a student
- Students receive email receipts of their submissions
- Grades entered using the Turnitin GradeMark tool are entered into the grade book in QMplus
- Staff can choose not to submit the student assignments to the Turnitin database

With the release of the Turnitin app for the iPad in the summer of 2013, we also recommend the use of a Turnitin assignment on QMplus with the app.

This document details how to go about setting up a Turnitin assignment on QMplus. It assumes you know the basics of editing a QMplus course area and know how to add and configure an activity.

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Log in to QMplus and go to the course area you wish to put the assignment in. Turn editing on. Navigate to the topic where you want the assignment to appear.
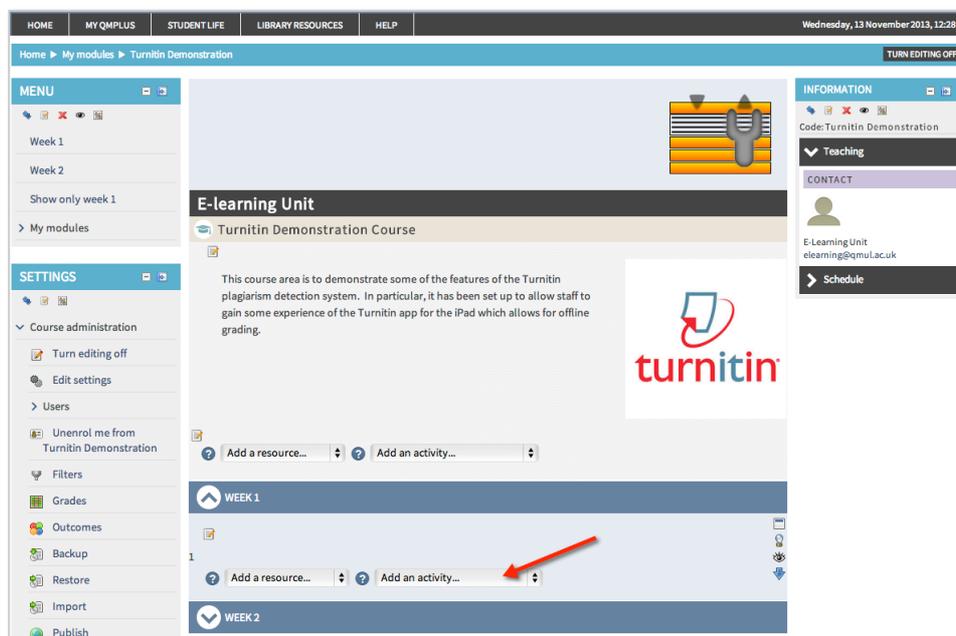

Click on "Add an activity…"
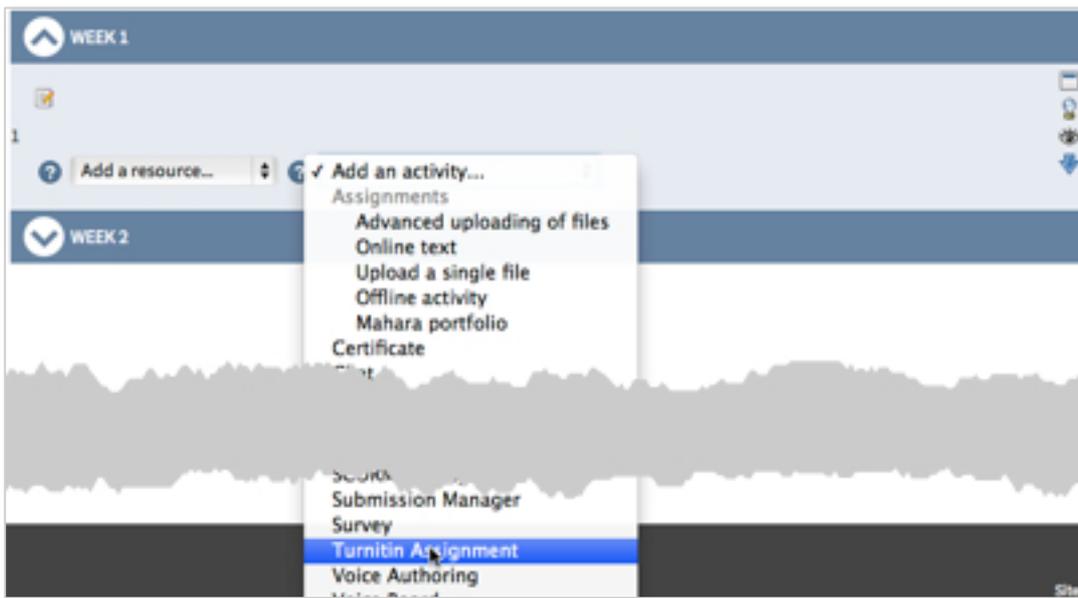
Select "Turnitin Assignment" from the drop down menu.

Note: Although this is an assignment, it doesn't appear in the "Assignments" section of the menu. This is because it isn't one of the "standard" QMplus assignment types.

After selecting the Turnitin Assignment, you will be taken to the assignment editing screen. There are a number of sections on this screen some of which will be familiar to you if you have set up other assignments on QMplus Here we are going to focus on two sections:
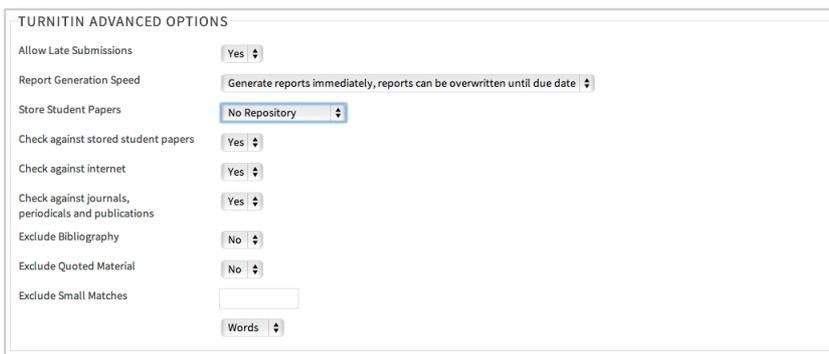
1. General
2. Turnitin advanced options
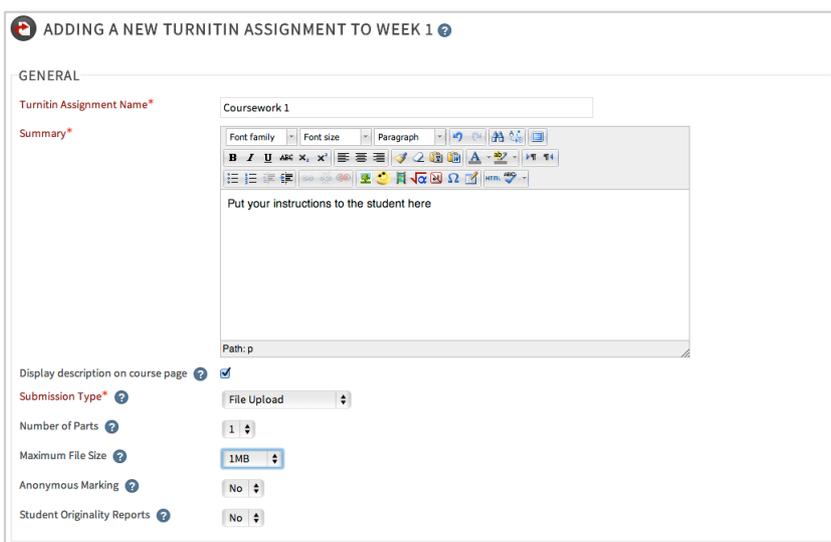
In the General section you will have to supply:

• The name of the assignment

- A summary – you might put your assignment instructions here

Other fields will have default values, you can change these if you wish. One to be aware of is:

- Submission type – Most people want their students to upload a file for their submission however the Turnitin assignment allows for either a file upload or an online text type, in which case the student has to copy and paste text into a box and submit that. By default the submission type is set to "Any Submission Type" which means that the *student themselves* can choose a file upload or an online text submission at the point they are submitting their work. If you don't want the student to have this choice, select one of the submission types in the drop down menu.

In the Turnitin Advanced Options section you will find a variety of settings which should be familiar to you if you have used Turnitin in the past. Here we have selected some of the common settings for an assignment.
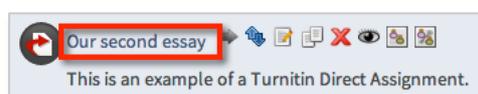
For full details on all of the settings available on the assignment please see the links at the end of this document.

Once you have made your selections here, you should scroll to the bottom of the page and click the "Save and Display" button.

You may be used to clicking the "Save and Return to Course" button but in this instance it is best to click "Save and Display". In particular, you may have noticed that you have not yet set the dates for the assignment. Clicking "Save and Display" will take you to the screen where you set the dates.

Note: If you clicked the "Save and Return to Course" instead, don't worry. You can still get to the screen to set the dates. Simply click on the assignment title. Don't forget to do it or your assignment will be released with some default date settings.

You will now find yourself on the Turnitin assignment summary screen. This is where you will find the dates for the assignment. Some default dates will have been created for you and you will almost certainly want to edit them. To do this, click the paper and pencil icon.

Hopefully the start date and due date are self explanatory. You may not, however, be familiar with the "Post" date. This is the date on which any grades and feedback provided on the assignment are released to students. If you intend to make use of the Turnitin GradeMark tool, either through the iPad app or through the standard web interface, the post date will control when the grades and feedback are made visible to the student. This date also controls the visibility of the grade in the QMplus gradebook.

When you have made your changes, click the "Submit" button.

Note: If you do not intend to make use of the GradeMark tool, you can click on the "Options" tab and turn it off.

One thing to get used to is that the settings for this type of assignment are located in two different places. Clicking on the title of the assignment will take you to one set of options and clicking on the paper and pencil icon (which is only available when you have editing turned on) will take you to another editing screen. You will probably end up on the wrong screen more than once.

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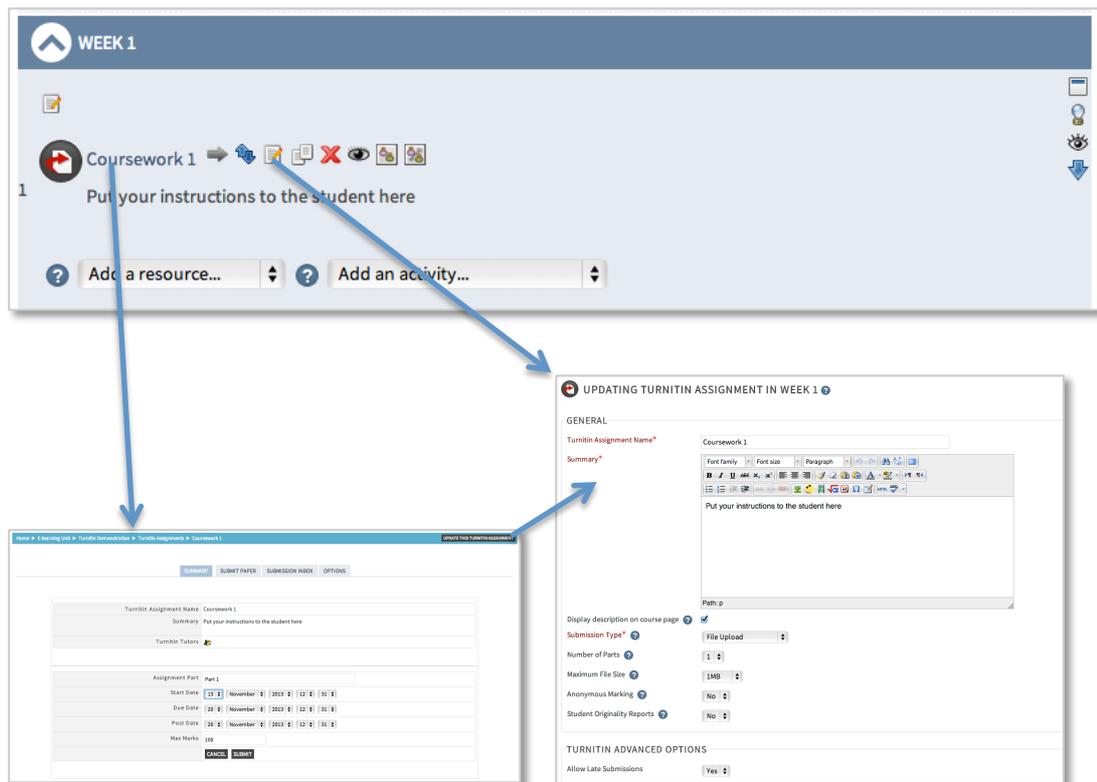
Next steps

This document has covered the basics of setting up a Turnitin assignment on QMplus. If you want to read more about the various settings on the assignment, Turnitin provide an excellent guide on their website:

- [Turnitin Moodle Direct Integration Instructor User Manual](#) – this document explains all of the settings on the assignment in detail

You can also find more information on settting assignments and on using the Turnitin app for the iPad in the help section of QMplus.

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Further information at: qmplus.qmul.ac.uk. To view additonal help files visit http://tinyurl.com/cz5toas
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