

VeriCite is an application that compares writing that you submit in Moodle to many repositories of published materials to determine if your work is original or if it matches someone else's. *Plagiarism* is using other people's ideas without giving them proper credit for it. When you do this, you're implying that the ideas are your own. Besides violating ethical standards, not providing proper attribution for the work of others is a serious infraction of academic policies which endangers your grade and your good standing in the University. [Hannon Library offers several resources](#) to help you avoid plagiarism. When in doubt, ask your professor or a librarian for help.

VeriCite in Moodle

If your instructor has designated an assignment for VeriCite comparison, you will see this notice as you prepare to submit your work:

Sample Assignment

Assignment instructions

Text and file submissions will be uploaded to a plagiarism detection service for instructor review.

After you submit your file, VeriCite will compare your writing to published material and provide a *similarity* score. Click on the word **Similarity** to open the comparison report. (In the example shown below, 42% of the paper submitted matched material published by others—most instructors would find that an unacceptably high number, so you'd want to go over your paper carefully and do some further editing with better attributions before making a final submission.)

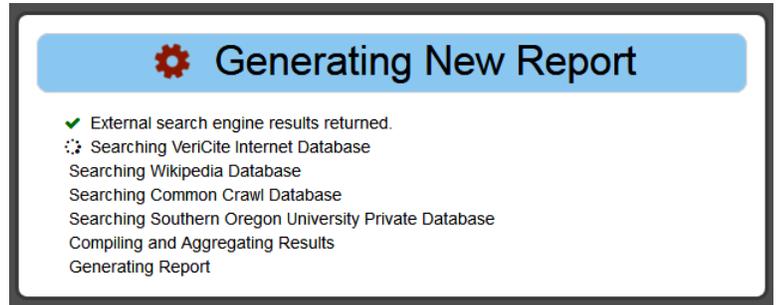
Sample Assignment

Submission status

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Submission status | Submitted for grading |
| Grading status | Graded |
| Last modified | Friday, December 30, 2016, 11:16 AM |
| File submissions | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> The Positive Value of Attendance.docx </div> <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-top: 2px;"> Similarity: 42% </div> |
| Submission comments | ▶ Comments (0) |

VeriCite Assignments: Student Guide

When you click on the **Similarity** link, VerCite will open a new tab in your browser and begin generating a report. You'll see a message that looks like the one at right.



After the report has been generated, you'll see the text of your paper (without formatting) and phrases highlighted in different colors, depending on the degree to which they matched published work. A legend at the bottom of the page describes the extent to which each phrase matched; using the **Top Matches** pull-down menu, you can review the original published work that was matched. The **Details** link offers information about the assignment itself. Note that you can also **download** and **print** the similarity report. If your instructor has graded and commented on the file, **comments** will appear in blue.

The screenshot shows the VeriCite report interface. The browser address bar shows the URL: https://app.vericite.com/vericite/report?sessionid=8C54F5. The page title is "The_Positive_Value_of_Attendance" with a 42% similarity score. The report content includes the title "The Positive Value of Attendance" and the text: "How important is attendance? Just listen: 'A meta-analysis of the relationship between class attendance in college and college grades reveals that attendance has strong relationship... These relationships make class attendance a better predictor of academic performance, including scores on standardized admissions tests and study habits.' [footnoteRef:1]. [1: Class Attendance in College: A Meta-Analytic Review of Student Characteristics,] Pretty strong stuff. In addition, when using attendance the student's photos may be present and that makes it easier to put a face to a name. You can also stop in to the Center for instructional Support in LIB 321 for tip on how to use a second Attendance set up for Students to use at the end of class to 'Checking Out'. This can help evaluate the effectiveness of a lessons impact. You may also decide to try Clickers for 'Checking Out' or even as an attendance taking idea by answering the 'Question of the Day'. Students answer a question of a topic which also takes the roll. This is useful when you are dealing with a large classroom full of students. The Clickers make it easier to verify who is present."

Annotations on the screenshot include:

- A yellow callout box: "Text in italics is excluded from comparison." pointing to the italicized text in the first paragraph.
- A blue callout box: "Instructor comments are in blue." pointing to the phrase "In addition, when using attendance" which is highlighted in blue.
- A red callout box: "Highlighted sections match published materials." pointing to several highlighted sections of text in pink, orange, and yellow.
- A green callout box: "(User guide for faculty-- contact support.sou.edu for help.)" pointing to the text "This is useful when you are dealing with a large classroom full of students."

At the bottom of the page, there is a legend for match levels: Low Match (lightest yellow), Medium Match (light yellow), High Match (light orange), and Very High Match (light red). Below the legend are buttons for "Comment" (blue), "Excluded" (yellow), and a help icon.