Plagiarism Detection and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Farmingdale State College has a license agreement with SafeAssign and Turnitin and, online services that can be used to detect and prevent plagiarism in student assignments. As student papers are academic records that may include personally identifiable information, they are protected by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The following guidelines have been prepared in order to assist faculty with using SafeAssign and Turnitin in a manner that is compliant with FERPA regulations.

Faculty should NOT submit papers to Turnitin or SafeAssign on behalf of students.

Faculty who would like to require students to submit their papers to SafeAssign or Turnitin will include the following notice on their syllabus:

Sample Syllabus Notice for Turnitin:
Students are required to submit written assignments for this class to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service that is not affiliated with Farmingdale State College. Before submitting your paper to Turnitin, it is recommended that you remove your title page and other personally identifiable information as all submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers.

Sample Syllabus Notice for SafeAssign:
Students are required to submit written assignments for this class to SafeAssign, a web-based plagiarism detection service that is not affiliated with Farmingdale State College. Before submitting your paper to SafeAssign, it is recommended that you remove your title page and other personally identifiable information as all submitted papers will be included as source documents in the SafeAssign.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers.