

Vanderbilt University's Evidence-Based Rejection of Turnitin's AI-Writing Detector

AI in Education · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Quasi-experimental

Summary

Vanderbilt disabled Turnitin's AI-writing detector campus-wide in Aug 2023, calculating its claimed 1% false-positive rate could wrongly flag ~750 of its 75,000 annual papers; a Stanford study found similar detectors misjudged 61.3% of non-native TOEFL essays as AI-written.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of learning impact	0/3
Equity & inclusion	3/3
Transparency, ethics & data protection	3/3
Teacher capability & pedagogy	1/3
Scalability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[Vanderbilt University](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[Vanderbilt Brightspace: Guidance on AI Detection and Why We're Disabling Turnitin's AI Detector](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[Liang et al., "GPT detectors are biased against non-native English writers", Patterns 4\(7\):100779 \(Cell Press, 2023\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

[The Markup: AI Detection Tools Falsely Accuse International Students of Cheating](#) — accessed 2026-07-13

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