Viewing Similarity Reports

iThenticate Similarity Reports provide an overall similarity index for each submission. This index determines the percentage of similarity between a submission and information existing in the iThenticate databases selected as search targets.

To view a Similarity Report click on the folder that the document was submitted to and then click on the similarity index icon under the Report column.

Clicking on the similarity index icon opens up the Similarity Report. The Similarity Report is separated into three main areas in the default view. These three areas are:

- **paper information** - the top of the report page shows information about the submitted paper. This includes the paper title, the date the report was processed, the word count, the folder the document was submitted from and the number of matching documents found in the selected databases

- **paper text** - the text of the submitted paper. Matching text is highlighted in a color that corresponds to the matching source listed on the right side of the Similarity Report

- **matching sources** - the list of matching sources for the highlighted areas within the paper text
Warning: The similarity indices do not reflect iThenticate’s assessment of whether a paper has or has not been plagiarized. Similarity Reports are simply a tool to help our clients find sources that contain text similar to the submitted documents. The decision to deem any work plagiarized must be made carefully, and only after an in-depth examination of both the submitted paper and suspect sources.

Viewing Modes

There are four modes in which to view a Report:

- **Similarity Report** - this is the default viewing mode for the Similarity Report. Provides a list of all areas of the paper which have similarity to information in the iThenticate databases. Matches are color-coded and listed from highest to lowest percentage of matching word area within the submission. Only the top or best matches are shown, all underlying matches are visible in the Content Tracking viewing mode. By clicking on the highlighted area of the text, the matching sources displays the actual source from the website and which part of the original writing was matched with the submitted document.

- **Content Tracking** - the content tracking similarity report view mode lists all the matches between the databases and the submitted document. Since iThenticate updates its database regularly it may have many matches from the same source. The sources that are the same will specify when they were copied from the internet.

- **Summary Report** - a simple, printable list of the matches found followed by the paper with the matching areas highlighted.

- **Largest Matches** - the report shows the percentage of words that are a part of a matching string of words (with some limited flexibility), in the Content Tracking view the report shows the percentage of matching words for a source regardless of whether or not the words are pieces of matching strings. In some cases, strings from the same source may overlap, in which case, the longer string in the Largest Match view will be displayed.

To select the view mode, click on the Mode: pull-down menu and select a viewing mode.