Literature Searching & Citation Management

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http://libguides.rhul.ac.uk/BiologicalSciences
My aim today is to answer these questions...

- What information resources does the library have?
- What is the best way to find information on these library resources?
- What can I do if I can’t find the full text article?
- How can I manage my references?
So before I start... a couple of quick questions for you...
We are open 24/7
We have two collections:

High Use...
...and General
Developing a search strategy

- Identify keywords that define your research question
- Select relevant information sources
- Evaluate and modify your searches
- Select and save results
- Locate copies of promising texts
Thinking about keywords
Identifying key concepts & keywords

Related terms
  e.g. polypeptides / proteins

Alternative spellings (UK & US)
  e.g. organisation or organization

Changing terminology
  e.g. global warming / climate change

Alternative terminology
  e.g. World Health Organization or WHO

Variations in word endings (singular, plural)
  e.g. organisation(s)

Synonyms (words or phrases that mean the same thing)
  e.g. conservation or preservation
Patisserie

Eclair

Cakes, bakery, pastries, French pastries...

Profiterole, choux pastry, choux bun

Gateaux, cake

L-R clockwise: Ein Eclair fur Kevin aus New York City by ingrid eulenfan CC BY-SA. Miniature French Patisserie by Stephanie Kilgast CC BY-NC-ND. Mango Mousse Gateaux by suziedepingu CC BY-NC-ND. Profiteroles by Danielle Tsi CC BY-SA. All: Flickr.
Activity Time
Activity 1

On the handout, write down your research topic. Then, think of the keywords...

If you need ideas, discuss with your neighbour! 😊
Analysing your query - an example

Finding information on: ‘population trends in Fiji’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main concept</th>
<th>Alternative terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. population trends</td>
<td>demographics, statistics or data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fiji</td>
<td>South Pacific, southern hemisphere, Oceania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What RESOURCES does the library have?
Selecting information sources

- LibrarySearch
- Library Subject Guides
- http://libguides.rhul.ac.uk/BiologicalSciences
- Online resources (Eresources)
- Other Library Catalogues: e.g. Senate House Library
- Other internet resources

These can all be found from the main Library webpage
How can I FIND information?
Combining Keywords

**AND** – narrows results by returning results with both terms listed as keywords

**NOT** – narrows results by returning results with only one term listed as a keyword

**OR** – broadens results by returning results with either term listed as keywords
e.g. “population trends” AND “southern hemisphere”

(population OR demographics) AND (Fiji OR “southern hemisphere” OR “South Pacific” OR Oceania)
Wildcard searching – hints & tips

Use wildcard characters ($ ? * - #) to replace letters in search terms

Examples:

bio* - finds biology, biosphere, BIOS, etc.
Organization - finds organisation, organization, etc.

NB: Help pages in online databases will explain which character is used as the wildcard
Activity Time
Go to a database and try out a few searches using your keywords and some of the search techniques we’ve just looked at.
No full text access?

Don’t worry – we’ve got you’re back!
Are you off-campus?

Royal Holloway ‘Campus Anywhere’ (VPN)

The only way to access all of our electronic resources off campus is to use the Virtual Private Network (VPN) service, known as 'CampusAnywhere'.

How to set up the VPN connection: [http://www.rhul.ac.uk/it](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/it)
(or click the link at the bottom of any Royal Holloway home page)
What is an Inter-Library Loan?

How long does it take?
• The short answer? It can depend…

Is there a charge?
• No charges to you (though it does cost us money)

How can I make an ILL loan?
• Log into LibrarySearch (see top right hand side)
• Click on the Inter-Library Loans button

For further information on interlibrary loans, check out the Library Webpages HERE.
Is it available via Senate House Library?

Senate House Library
Russell Square, London WC1E 7HU
Apply online for membership, visit for full access.

SCONUL Access Scheme
Apply online for membership/visitor access to university Libraries.
Citation Searching

OR...

the art of academic stalking
How do I found out who has cited an article?

• Key databases:
  - Google Scholar also offers a “cited by” function
  - [http://libguides.rhul.ac.uk/citationsearching](http://libguides.rhul.ac.uk/citationsearching)
  - Web of Science also includes Journal Citation Reports – handy to work out what journals have the best impact in your field.
Reviewing & Evaluating
Reviewing your research

Do you have enough / too much information?

Is it relevant to your research?

Is the information current / within the date you require?

Does it answer the whole question?

Do you need to review your underlying research question?
Why is evaluating sources important?

- Vast amounts of information available
- Making sure you are using appropriate sources in your work
- An important academic skill to develop
- Important for the wider wider e.g. fake news, filter bubbles

BBC, 2017
## Evaluation Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Expertise of Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Viewpoint of Author/Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Intended Audience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>When published</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# The CRAAP Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>When was it published? Is the information too old? When was it last updated? How important is it that you have up-to-date information?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relevancy</td>
<td>Does it fit your project? Will your project be stronger if you include this information?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Who has published or written the information? Do you trust them? Is it easy to find out anything about them?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accuracy</td>
<td>Is the information correct? Is the information supported by evidence/references? Can you verify the information in another source?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Why does the information exist? Is it trying to sell you something, persuade you or give you an opinion? Once you figure this out, you can then decide how to use the information that you have found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selecting & saving results & full text

Most databases allow you to:

• Select and save results to a ‘folder’
• Save, print, download or email results
• Save search ‘histories’ & re-run them
• Create alerts and / or set up RSS feeds (Zetoc)

Always make a note of your search queries and which database you used.
Why reference?

- Acknowledge the author of the source
- Enable the item to be traced
- Evidence of scope and depth of your research
- Reference style – the layout & format of your bibliography

libguides.rhul.ac.uk/BiologicalSciences

“Referencing etc “
Reference Management Tools

- Capture, save and organise references
- Generate bibliographies and in-text citations (with plug-ins into Word and Google Docs, etc)
- The Library provides access and support to:
  - RefWorks
  - EndNote
  - But there are others and all tools usually have online self-help tutorials...
Activity Time
Let’s try RefWorks!

Or if you are already using RefWorks, sign up for email updates on your research topic from either Web of Science or PubMed.
Any questions?
Before I scoot off, my last few questions...
Want further help?

Leanne.Workman@rhul.ac.uk

http://libguides.rhul.ac.uk/BiologicalSciences

1-2-1 Sessions (or email me! 😊)