ECS MSc : Library Resources –

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This session will help you

- Introduce you to the library
- Identify help and training available to
  - find the right resources
  - get the best results
- Identify good quality information
- Understand why you must reference, using software if necessary
- Have an awareness of the Academic Skills Hub, resources and web pages
Join at

Or

Search Vevox in the app store

ID: 182-527-818
How confident are you finding good quality resources for your project?

1. Very confident
   0%
2. Not confident
   0%
3. Confident
   0%
4. Not at all confident
   0%
LibGuides@Southampton

You will find information on …

- [Using the library](#)
- [Assignment & Dissertation planners](#)
- [Online training](#)
- [Subject Pages](#)
- [Academic Skills](#)
Online training

• Help when you need it!

• http://library.soton.ac.uk/online-skills
There’s lots of information out there ..

Which information is best for your project

What do you use to look for good quality, academic resources
A good starting point - library web pages & resources

LibGuides@Southampton
Accessible from http://library.soton.ac.uk/home

Use these to find

– subject specific resources, including specialist subject databases
– general library information and services
– other resources such as online training, workshops and assignment planners
Subject Guides: finding the right resources …

Go to the ELECTRONIC & COMPUTER SCIENCE Library LibGuide

• http://library.soton.ac.uk/ecs
Key Subject Resources

These are the key databases we recommend that you use, a more complete list is available from our ECS Finding Useful Articles & Databases page. All electronic resources can be accessed off-campus through the Southampton Virtual Environment (SVE).

Full text databases

- ACM Digital Library
  Full text access to the Association of Computing Machinery journals and conferences - this includes all current content and in many cases a full backfile (to the 1950s in some cases).

- IEEE Xplore
  Full text access to all IET and IEEE journals and conferences since 1988 and all active and archival (but not draft) IEEE standards.

- Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS)
  Reports new developments in computer science and information technology research and teaching. Full text available from 1975 - present day. LNCS also includes the sub-series LNAI (in Artificial Intelligence) and LNBI (in Bio-Informatics).

Other databases for more focused and detailed searching:

- Computer Science Abstracts (CSA)
- Computing Abstracts
- Compendex
- Engineering Village
- IEEE Xplore
- JSTOR
- ScienceDirect
- SpringerLink
- Taylor & Francis Online
- Web of Science

Need a Book?

New Resources:

- Cambridge Core Journals providing access to 380 peer-reviewed Cambridge University Press e-journals and their digitised archives
- Oxford Scholarship Online - over 15,000 e-books from Oxford University Press
Use the ECS LibGuide to find:

- Links to key online resources for information in
  - Library Search
  - Books and topics
  - Journal articles & key databases
  - Websites
  - Skills for success
  - Help and training
- Search the resources available here at
  
  http://library.soton.ac.uk/ecs
Skills for Success

Assignment Planner

Just got an assignment? Not sure how to start? This Assignment Planner is a step-by-step guide to help you plan, organise and complete your assignment. You can save your work and return to the planner at any time. Please provide feedback or let us know if you have any questions.

Dissertation Planner

Planning your dissertation? Not sure where to start? The Dissertation Planner is a step-by-step guide to help you write a dissertation from start to finish. You can think about your question through to final submission. You can save your work and return to the planner at any time. Please provide feedback or let us know if you have any questions.

Citing and Referencing

Your department will recommend which citing and referencing style you should use.

Use the Citing and Referencing guide to find out how to reference resources and which referencing style you should be using. There is also guidance on the different types of reference management software available to help you choose the right tool for you.

Academic Skills Hub

The Academic Skills Hub is located on Level 2 in the Hartley Library, room 2045. The drop-in service provides face to face support to help you develop any area of study skills where you feel you need help.

Drop in Monday to Friday, 10:00 to 12:00 and 14:00 to 16:00, for guidance and advice about:

- Academic skills
- Critical thinking
- Academic integrity
- Information management
- Presentation skills
- Exam techniques
- Research skills

http://library.soton.ac.uk/ecs/ - Skills for Success tab
Why do we use databases?

• link to up to date information from peer reviewed publications
• are usually well indexed enabling you to search in detail
• contain abstracts summarising the articles retrieved
• often link directly to the full text if it is available electronically
FULL TEXT key databases

library.soton.ac.uk/ecs

Everything from these databases are available in full text
They are a really good starting point!

Key Databases - Google and beyond!

Don’t just rely on what your tutors recommend - search independently for academic, quality information!

Improve your marks by keeping up-to-date and using research from journal articles, reports, and conferences. For quick and easy access to actual articles use the Databases listed below.

Links to other useful databases can be found on the Finding Useful Articles tab in this guide.

- ACM Digital Library
  Full text access to the Association of Computing Machinery’s journals and conferences - this includes all current content and in many cases a full backfile (to the 1950s in some cases)

- IEEE Xplore
  Full text access to all IET and IEEE journals and conferences since 1988 and all current IEEE standards

- Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS)
  Reports new developments in computer science and information technology research and teaching. Full text available from 1975 - present day. LNCS also includes the sub-series LNAI (in Artificial Intelligence) and LNBI (in Bio-informatics).
SCHOLARLY Databases

- Compendex, Inspec, Web of Science, Scopus; Medline
  - Search very broadly for journal articles, conference papers, etc.
  - Quality information, up-to-date, specific
  - Reference citation not full text (often linking features)
  - Includes journals we don’t buy

Plus much more ...
TECHNICAL INFORMATION

http://library.soton.ac.uk/techinfo

- Patents
- Standards
  - British Standards Online (BS / some ISO, IEC, etc.)
  - IEEEXplore
- ESDU
- NASA
SEARCHING Databases: Getting the best results

Can be done in many ways…

• Topic or subject searches
  – keywords or phrases
  – controlled indexing (thesaurus) terms
• Author & title searches
• Citation searching
• plus more
SEARCH TIPS 1: The basics

Start simple – with a few keywords

– Then look at the results – do you need?:
  • more relevance – be more specific
  • more results - broaden your search
  • more manageable numbers – restrict by date or publication
– N.B. aim for about 50-150 results

PLAN YOUR SEARCH!
Searching the databases by topic

• Search statements receive exact matches
• Use Boolean operators (and, or, not) to combine search terms
• Use truncation, stemming and wild cards (symbols vary between databases)
• Enclose exact phrases in quotation marks (usually) e.g. ‘black hole’
Searching techniques

- Identify keywords and concepts
PLANNING your Search Strategy

Identify the main concepts

Development of optical telecommunications with microstructured fibres
Identify the main concepts and keywords (if using TWO words together, put a - between them)
Vevox 182-527-818

- Development of optical telecommunications with microstructured fibres
  - e.g. optical fibres, telecommunications, microstructure
Keep **REVISING** your Search Strategy

- Now think about alternative phrases and keywords i.e. words that have the same or similar meaning = SYNONYMS

  - Optical fibres > fibre optics > fiber optics>
  - Telecommunication/s
  - Microstructured > microstructur*

- E.g. (Optical fibres OR fibre optics OR fiber optics) AND telecommunications AND microstructur*
SEARCH Tools: combining & refining

- Use Boolean operators to combine search terms
  - AND, OR, NOT

- Use truncation, stemming and wild cards
  - e.g. electron*
  - Symbols vary

- Use exact phrases
  - e.g. graphical user interface

- Enclose exact phrases in quotation marks in some cases
  - Enclose in quotes “black body radiation”
Boolean Searching : Examples

Stand up if you are wearing anything with the footwear such as VANS/CONVERSE/TRAINERS

• Vans/Converse/Trainers = optical fibres
Boolean Searching

… continue standing if the Vans/Converse you are wearing are black

Black = telecommunications

• i.e wearing BOTH black AND converse/vans/trainers

we are narrowing down our search
Boolean Searching

continue standing if you are also wearing high tops

High tops = microstructure

We have used AND to group different concepts together

Converse/Vans AND black AND high tops

e.g. optical fibres AND telecommunications AND microstructure

making it much quite a specific search
Boolean Searching

- All sit down again to ‘clear’ our search history
SEARCHING: refining your search

• Re-run your new search with the revised concepts and keywords

• Or narrow your search using the Refine options on the search screen
Searching by author

• Useful for key authors in a field

• Follow database instructions for input format eg Green N * (very important)

• For common names, limit by address or topic (Hint: ‘search’ for University of Southampton – change to address in index)
Mark, Export, Record

• Many databases have a ‘marked record’ facility or similar

• Add useful articles to a marked/selected records area to …
  – print out or e-mail to yourself a list of these articles
  – export to bibliographic software like EndNote, Mendeley, BibTex
Other **USEFUL** features

- Saving searches
- Alerts
- Search history
Websites: other online resources

Resources

• Learned societies (IMechE, ICE etc)
• Publishers
• E-print repositories

Things to consider

• coverage
• quality of search interface
• availability of full text
• ‘authority’ of the resource
Electronics and Computer Science (ECS): Gateways & Organisations

General Websites
- **TechXtra**
  Search industry news, job announcements, ejournals, eprints and technical reports. Also enables searching articles, theses, etc. (Databases are probably more effective at this).
- **Computerox**
  Promotes academic vacancies in Schools of Computer, Electrical and Mathematical Sciences and Engineering worldwide.

Useful Organisations
- **ACM - Association for Computing Machinery**
  The ACM supports IT professionals and students, and the University of Southampton Library has access to their full text journals and conference proceedings through the ACM Digital Library.
- **BCS British Computer Society**
  The website gives information about the Society, its Codes of Conduct and Practice, its examinations, Professional Development Scheme, and BCS Awards Scheme. A Diary of Events is given, as well as information on the society’s Specialist Groups, regional branches, and Technical and Professional Committees.
- **IEEE**
  A professional association dedicated to advancing technological innovation and excellence.
- **IET - The Institution of Engineering and Technology**
  A UK based organisation leading the development of all engineering disciplines and specializing in the professional advancement of individual engineers.

Gateways
- **DBLP Computer Science Bibliography**
  Provides bibliographic information on major computer science journals and proceedings plus links to home pages of computer scientists. Hosted by Universität Trier.
- **Google Scholar**
  A wide search of academic papers, though not all ones we subscribe too. Southampton subscriptions usually marked.
- **SciCentral**
  Gateway to online scientific and engineering research plus breaking research news.
- **Symbolab**
  Symbolab is a semantic web search engine for math and science. It allows users to search and solve equations, formulas and expressions using mathematical symbols and scientific notations as well as text. more...
- **Virtual Training Suite - Computer Science and Informatics**
  Discover key sites and Internet search tips with this interactive tutorial.
- **Virtual Training Suite - Electrical Engineering**
  A free online tutorial to help university students develop their Internet research skills.
- **Virtual Training Suite – Physics**
  A free online tutorial to help Physics students develop their Internet research skills.
Online Resources: the Web

- Use high quality websites & evaluate the information you find
- .ac.uk (academic)
- .edu (academic)
- .gov.uk (government)
- .co.uk (organization)
- Beware those published to sell a product i.e.
- .com (commercial)
Record your searches

• Why?
• Acting with Academic Integrity
  – acknowledging the work of others
  – enable others to trace your line of research
• Avoid Plagiarism
  “Evidence of plagiarism will result in a mark of 0%”
What is citing and referencing?
When you use ideas or information from sources such as books, journals, websites, film or other materials in your writing, you need to show where that information came from. For further information see the explanation in Cite Them Right Online.

Why do I need to do it?
Citing and referencing your work correctly is essential. If you acknowledge the work of others you are acting with academic integrity and taking steps to avoid plagiarising someone else’s work. You are also allowing your reader to trace your line of research.

Do I have to do it in a particular way for my academic unit?
At the University of Southampton academic units or disciplines recommend which style you should use in your work. Check the information here to find which style you should use.

Find your style...

IEEE - is a numbered style from the IEEE. The IEEE Computer Society has its own guidance which is similar to that of IEEE but differs in some respects.

- IEEE - The 2014 style manual provides general editing guidelines for IEEE Transactions, Journals, and Letters. See Editing References, pages 34-47, which demonstrates ‘in text citations’ and gives the basic guidelines for citing a variety of materials. A list of IEEE publication names and reference abbreviations plus much more are also given.
  - IEEE Editorial Style Manual
  - IEEE Computer Society - The 2016 style guide is similar to the IEEE Citation Reference guide but clarifies the editorial styles and standards that the Computer Society’s publications use. See References, pages 32-40, which consists of 2 subsections giving examples of most of the reference types that arise in Computer Society publications and then explains the policies and style principles underlying the formats. Use the IEEE Editorial Style Manual for a demonstration of ‘in text citations’.
Referencing Software

Referencing software or apps allow you to collect and organise citations and references from your literature search - and then insert them into your document formatted in whichever style you choose.

EndNote is fully supported in the University - but there are free alternatives that you can explore for yourself, including Mendeley, Zotero and BibTeX.

Which one should I choose?

Any one of the tools will be helpful. Use the information in this guide to help you decide which one will be compatible with your work flow and flexible enough to meet your needs. Use the What is your workflow? checklist in the resources on the right to consider how best you like to work.

Also consider which of the tool others in your research group, discipline or field are already using. Will you need to share references with colleagues or collaborate with other researchers?

You can switch between the tools. It just becomes less convenient the longer you use a tool and the more file attachments you collect.

Which one?  

Use the information in this guide to help you decide which one will be compatible with your work flow and flexible enough to meet your needs.

Caution!

Remember that no available style in a reference management tool will format every reference perfectly, especially if you use an in-browser tool to extract reference information from a webpage.

You may need to add, amend or remove elements of the reference, either manually within the reference management tool, or once your list is exported to Word.

Always proofread your work before submission.
VEVOX.app

• Answer questions 2-10
Which one of these is NOT a Boolean Operator?

1. AND
2. NOT
3. OR
4. PLUS

0%
Which of these would you use to broaden your search by including alternative terms? / synonyms?

1. **AND**
   - 0%

2. **NOT**
   - 0%

3. **OR**
   - 0%

4. **ALL**
   - 0%
What could you try if you get too many results?

Vote for up to 2 choices

1. Think of some additional terms for your key concepts
   - 0%

2. Use narrower, more precise search terms or keywords
   - 0%

3. Remove some of your alternative search terms or keywords
   - 0%

4. Take a tea break to gather your thoughts
   - 0%
Select the LEAST useful resource to find key material for your thesis

1. DelphiS
2. Google
3. Subject databases and Gateways
4. Google Scholar
In which of these resources do you find good quality, academic journal articles?

Vote for up to 2 choices

1. Google Scholar
   - 0%

2. Patents
   - 0%

3. Databases
   - 0%

4. Standards
   - 0%

(% = Percentage of Voters)
Which of these is an example of truncation? (searching for alternative word endings)?

1. "graphical user interface"
   0%

2. electr*
   ✓
   0%

3. organi?ation
   0%
Why do you need to reference?

1. Allows others to trace your line of research.
   - 0%

2. Avoid plagiarism
   - 0%

3. Acting with academic integrity
   - 0%

4. All of the above
   - 0%
Managing the material & your time

• Save search histories
• Download relevant material (ensuring you comply with copyright)
• Reference consistently and with the system recommended by your Academic Unit
Working off campus?

Use the [SVE (Southampton Virtual Environment)](https://example.com) when working away from campus. Access ..

- all your files
- popular pieces of software
- Library databases and resources

..by installing [VMware Horizon Clients](https://example.com) software
Get Help…

• Email us: libenqs@soton.ac.uk

• Go to your subject pages: library.soton.ac.uk/ecs

• Ask at library help desks

• Ask a Librarian: live chat
Library Online Training
http://library.soton.ac.uk/online-skills

Advanced online training
http://library.soton.ac.uk/online-skills-advanced

Dissertation Planner
http://library.soton.ac.uk/sash/dissertation-planner
Academic Skills Hub

The Academic skills Hub offers:

- One-to-one support ‘drop in’ service
- A wide range of workshops
- Writing skills & support

http://library.soton.ac.uk/sash
Are you able to…

• find the best print and electronic resources including subject databases on the library website

• implement effective techniques for searching these resources

• know how to evaluate and identify good quality information

• know why to reference, using reference management software if necessary

• identify subject resources and key Library services available on LibGuides@Southampton
Please complete the Feedback survey on Vevox
YOUR QUESTIONS