Preparing for your Research Paper | Research and Referencing Skills

Kathy Neville
Information Skills Librarian
LLRbea@lsbu.ac.uk
What we’re going to cover today…

✓ Building your search strategy
✓ Finding materials on your subject: Resources on/off-campus
  o Databases
  o Google Scholar
✓ LSBU Harvard Referencing
✓ Help & Advice
There are two things you need to consider…

BEFORE YOU SEARCH
Searching effectively

Keywords

Search strategy
Building a search strategy…

• Identify **keywords**

• Consider **alternative terms**
  • Synonyms (different words with similar or almost identical meanings)
  • Alternative spellings
  • Broader or narrower terms

• Consider **limits**
  • Such as articles published in the last 5 years
  • Research within UK only
Example | Prefabrication

• Ways to describe: modular construction, prefabricated building, off-site assembly
• Get more specific: construction industry or building industry
• Area Focus: UK or United Kingdom
Search Connectors: Narrow Your Results

- Put speech marks “ ” around words that you want to search as a phrase e.g. “modular construction”
- Link terms with AND e.g. design AND bridges
- Use NOT to exclude words e.g. vibrations NOT earthquakes
Search Connectors: Broaden Your Results

• Use the * symbol towards the end of a word to find words beginning with a common stem:
  econ* will find economics, economic, economy, economical, economies.

• Link similar words with OR: “tall building” OR multi-storey
### Putting it all together

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keyword/s</th>
<th>Alternative/Related words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example: News</strong></td>
<td><strong>Example: media OR current affairs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword 1:</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;modular construction&quot;</td>
<td>Alternative keyword/s 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>&quot;prefabricated building*&quot; OR &quot;on-site assembly&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword 2:</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;construction industry&quot;</td>
<td>Alternative keyword/s 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>&quot;building industry&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword 3:</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Alternative keyword/s 3:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>&quot;United Kingdom&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Library Catalogue

Searches the library catalogue e.g. books and journal titles but NOT journal articles

Discovery Service

Searches the library catalogue and most* journal article databases – will find journal articles using your key words

My LSBU > Library & Academic > Library
LibGuides

Library and Learning Resources guides > via My LSBU > Library & Academic
Subject Support | Construction

https://libguides.lsbu.ac.uk/construction
Access other libraries

✓ **SCONUL Access**
✓ **Inter library loans**
✓ **Search25**

Further info on the Library Guide > [https://libguides.lsbu.ac.uk/library](https://libguides.lsbu.ac.uk/library)

- Past Dissertations and Theses
  - full text online or print in the library
  - Ethos - PhD Theses [http://ethos.bl.uk](http://ethos.bl.uk)
- Google Scholar
Google Scholar

http://scholar.google.co.uk
Searches academic information on the web

Settings > Library Links
Search for ‘London South Bank University’
Select and save
LSBU Harvard Referencing
What is Referencing?

Providing detailed information on all sources that you use when you are researching and writing your assignment.
Why reference?

✓ To prove that substantial research has been done to support your analysis
✓ To give credit to other people’s work
✓ To enable others to follow up on your work
✓ Good academic practice!

To avoid plagiarism!
Multiple authors

For three authors or more, put *et al.* after the name of the first author in the in-text citation.

Example: … *Anderson et al.* (2003) concluded that …

*Et al.* is an abbreviation of the Latin *et alia* meaning “and others”.

Note: In your reference list you should list *all* authors.
Examples of plagiarism

• Not citing information source which is not “common knowledge”
• ‘Cut & paste’: copying another’s words without quoting or citing
• Paraphrasing another’s words without citing
• Summarising another’s ideas or findings without citing
• Using illustrative materials such as images, diagrams, plans and statistics without citing the source
• Music and movies…
2 parts of Referencing

In-text citations
• for directly quoting or paraphrasing a source
• located in the body of the work
• contain a short fragment of the full citation

Reference list
• at the end of the work
• shows full citations for sources used in the assignment
In-text citation

Format: (Author, year) – paraphrasing, summarizing
(Author, year, page number) – for direct quotes

e.g. For end of sentence
… other authors have denied this (Hartley, 1999).

As part of sentence
Hartley (1999) suggests that …

As part of direct quote
“transformation is key to …” (Hartley, 1999, p.74).
Reference List

✓ Should only contain the details of **sources you’ve cited** in your work.

✓ Put all your references in one list under the heading ‘**Reference list**’.

✓ Do not list resources by type.

✓ List references in **alphabetical order** by the authors’ surnames/names of corporate authors or by the first letter of the reference.


Journal article

- Author (Surname, Initials)
- Year published
- Title of article
- Name of journal
- Volume & issue number
- First & last page numbers

LSBU Example:
More than just shape: a representation for functionality

Luca Bogoni

Abstract

This paper presents a representation for objects based not only on shape and material properties but also on the role that the object plays in the scene. Functionality is introduced as a representation mapping the intrinsic properties of an object in the perceptual and interactive space of an agent and is characterized as an extension of purposive and active vision, active perception and task-oriented approaches. The developed robotic system extracts functional features employed in interactions for piercing and chopping. The representation is presented by means of histograms and Force–Shape maps. Histograms are provided as means of representing the success in accomplishing the various experiments utilizing different tools and materials. Force–Shape maps are employed to capture the dynamics of cutting interactions. These techniques are validated by a number of experiments and the results are presented and discussed.
Referencing online resources

if an online source (e.g. a journal article) is also available in print then just follow the guidelines for referencing the print version.

This is particularly advisable for e-books and e-journal articles on LSBU subscription databases.
Website


In-text citation: (Surname, Year published)

In-text citation: (ICE Virtual Library, 2016)
Tips!

✓ Compile your reference list as soon as you start researching
✓ Accurate notes to distinguish your own words/ideas from the work of other people
✓ Check referencing info and guides on your LibGuide
✓ It is better to reference too much than not enough
✓ If you are unsure, ask!
RefWorks

Online reference management software: LSBU has an institutional subscription.

Search for RefWorks on the library search box on my.lsbu or go direct to https://refworks.proquest.com/signup/email/

You’ll need to select LSBU Harvard style

You will still need to check the references
Where to get Help
Library and Learning Resources

Library
Helpdesk – 1 East
library@lsbu.ac.uk
020 7815 6607/6615

IT Support
Helpdesk – 1 West
llr-ithelpdesk@lsbu.ac.uk
020 7815 6678

Digital Skills
Digital Skills Centre
digitalskills@lsbu.ac.uk
020 7815 6610
Library and Learning Resources

Academic Liaison & Teaching Team

Built Environment & Architecture

LLRbea@lsbu.ac.uk

Research Helpdesk, 3 Bridge, Mon-Fri 11-4.30pm
Social Media

LSBU Library and Learning Resources

@LLRIsbu

blog https://libguides.lsbu.ac.uk/llrblog/generalblog

LLR@LSBU
Questions?
Thank you for listening!