## Literature review

Watch this screencast from Dr Rochelle Sibley about how to undertake a literature review.

- Listen carefully and look at the key points on the slides.
- Take notes of any points that you did not know before.
- Stop, start and repeat the screencast sections to make sure that you understand all of Rochelle's advice.
- Make a note of anything you do not understand and ask your supervisor about it.



Note: Audio and video is only available in the online version of this content.

## Skills development

Researching, collating, reporting and synthesising what other people say and write is part of all jobs in the business world, so the skills you develop while doing your literature review will be very useful to you in the future.

## Citation

You have already completed some assignments at WBS, so you should be familiar with quoting, parahrasing and summarising the words and ideas of other people in your writing. The Library website (http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/students/referencing/) offers referencing support and provides you with guidance for the Harvard referencing style (http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/students/referencing/referencing-styles) used at WBS

For help with incorporating citations smoothly into your writing, go to <u>Using English for Academic Purposes</u> (http://www.uefap.com/writing/writfram.htm), click 'Reporting' and then 'Synthesis'. Example 1 at the bottom of the page is particularly useful.

If you have not tried using a software package to help you organise your bibliography, you may like to try one while writing your dissertation as this usually saves time and can be added to your CV as another software package that you are familiar with. Below are links to information about Endnote, Zotero, Mendeley and RefWorks.

For a brief comparison of all EndNote, Zotero, Mendeley and RefWorks from the University of Minnesota Library, click here: <a href="Introduction to Citation Managers">Introduction to Citation Managers</a> (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YerqPBwLEqg&index=17&list=PLPogJZvXgE\_PiDRvYJVaK5EPFY0aJojdW). Then, click on the links below to find the corresponding information and training for each software package:

- Endnote (https://warwick.ac.uk/services/library/students/endnote/)
- Zotero (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyPSVpvJzkQ)
- Mendeley (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLtk6n8cFdk)
- RefWorks (https://www.youtube.com/user/ProQuestRefWorks).

## **Plagiarism**

According to Oxford Dictionaries online (2014), plagiarism is:



The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.

There are two main reasons for students to plagiarise. Firstly, some students have poor citation skills; for instance, they do not take notes of reference details when they are reading to find quotations, so when they incorporate other writers' words and ideas into their own writing, they do not give the correct reference details with them, such as author's name or date. Secondly, some students are not confident in their own ideas and use the ideas and words of other people without giving any reference information. In both cases, these are academic crimes that may lead to failure and in both cases, they are easy to avoid.

- 1. Be meticulous in your note-taking.
- 2. Make sure your notes clearly show which ideas are yours.
- 3. Make sure your notes clearly show which ideas are quotations, paraphrases and summaries of other people's ideas with the full bibliographic reference next to them.
- 4. If you are using a bibliographic software package to help with your referencing, check every new entry carefully to make sure the reference details it has collected are correct.
- 5. When you are incorporating other people's ideas in your work, transfer the information from your notes very carefully using the correct punctuation.
- 6. When you are editing your writing to help it flow better, make sure your paraphrases and summaries of other people's ideas don't change their intended message.

For more information and advice about plagiarism, please see the following links:

- University of Warwick (https://moodle.warwick.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=51959)
- For Warwick's University Regulations on plagiarism (http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/calendar/section2/regulations/cheating), click on the link (left) and scroll down to Section B.