**** **My Learning Essentials**

**Academic Writing for Economics**

My Learning Essentials is the Library’s award-winning skills support programme. It offers face to face workshops and online support across a variety of topics including academic writing, evaluating sources, research skills and wellbeing.

You can signpost students to our bookable workshops and online resources:

* [www.manchester.ac.uk/my-learning-essentials](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/my-learning-essentials)

Alternatively you can embed tailored support at a programme or module level to align your student’s skills development with your learning outcomes:

* [www.manchester.ac.uk/library/mle-staff](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library/mle-staff)

The following is a selection of online resources to support students in their academic writing and research skills. For full details of all our online resources see [My Learning Essentials](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/my-learning-essentials).

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| **Academic Writing** |  |
| [**Start to Finish: Essay Writing**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/packages/writing/) | This set of resources will take you through the writing process from start to finish and help you to produce a well-structured, coherent piece of work that answers the question, evidences your own analysis and is easy for your reader to follow. |
| [**Get a Grip: Understanding your Task**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/understanding-task/) | This resource takes you through the process of analysing your assignment task to ensure that you're clear about what you're being asked to do, giving you some useful techniques to ensure that your work remains focused on directly addressing the question at hand. |
| [**Never a Wasted Word: Writing your Essay**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/writing-essay/) | This resource explores the purpose and process of writing an essay, highlighting how you can ensure that your themes run throughout your work, and that every section of your essay supports your argument to help your reader to understand your ideas. |
| [**Being Critical: Thinking, Reading, Writing**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/being-critical/) | This resource explores how to be critical, highlighting practical strategies you can use in your academic reading and writing that will enable you to demonstrate critical analysis in your assignments. |
| [**What’s the Big Idea: Developing & Organising your Argument**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/developing-argument/) | This resource outlines a five-step technique you can use to help you to identify what your main arguments are, and to organise your ideas into a coherent structure. |
| [**Finding the Good Stuff: Evaluating your sources**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/evaluating-sources/) | This resource explores the process of evaluating the sources you find to ensure they are relevant and quality assured, equipping you with the skills you need to identify high-quality information to use in your academic work. |
| [**Original Thinking Allowed: Avoiding Plagiarism**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/avoiding-plagiarism/) | This resource explores some of the issues surrounding academic integrity, providing you with techniques to help you to avoid plagiarism when referring to the work of others and to add your own voice into your work. |

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| [**Better Safe than Sorry: Proofreading Your Work**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/proofreading/) | This resource explores three vital elements to review when proofreading your work - flow, clarity and accuracy - and gives you a chance to learn about and apply some techniques to ensure that you check your work properly. |
| [**Start to Finish: Referencing**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/packages/referencing/) | This set of resources will show you how to reference different types of sources in your assignments. It will help you to cite, paraphrase and manage your references using tools such as EndNote, Endnote online and Mendeley. |
| [**Citing it Right: Introducing Referencing**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/introducing-referencing/) | This resource explores the principles behind referencing, highlighting why it is good academic practice. It outlines when and how you need to reference, and how to read a reference when following up a source listed on a reading list or bibliography. |
| [**Manage your References using Endnote**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/endnote/story_flash.html) | This resource explores some of the key features of EndNote reference management software. It includes video demonstrations in how to collect, organise and format your references for both EndNote desktop and EndNote online. |
| [**Start to Finish: Dissertations**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/packages/dissertations/) | These resources will take you through how to plan, research and choose a topic for your dissertation. They will help you to produce a well planned, researched dissertation that will hold your interest and the interest of your reader. |
| **Research Skills** |  |
| [**Getting Results: Guides to searching Databases**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/packages/getting-results/) | This set of resources will demonstrate the process of performing a search on a number of database platforms. They each cover performing a search, refining your results and saving, emailing and exporting your results. |
| [**Know your Sources: Types of Information**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/information-types/) | This resource highlights the strengths and weaknesses of different information types, enabling you to make informed decisions about the types of source you use for different purposes in your academic work. |
| [**Knowing where to Look: Your Search Toolkit**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/search-toolkit/) | This resource explores Google, Google Scholar, subject databases and Library Search, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses to enable you to make an informed choice when selecting where to search for information. |
| [**Planning Ahead: Make your Search Work**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/planning-search/) | This resource explores the process of planning a search, highlighting some techniques you can use to refine your search to help you to get a manageable number of high-quality, relevant results to use in your work. |
| [**Shopping for Information: Introducing subject databases**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/introducing-databases/) | This resource explores some of the key features of subject databases, demonstrating that while they can initially appear daunting and complicated, they can be as easy to use as any online shopping site. |
| [**Search Operators: refine AND combine OR NOT?**](https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/learning-objects/mle/search-operators/story_flash.html) | This resource will introduce you to the use of search operators in subject databases. You will gain a greater understanding of how each operator refines and manipulates your search; enabling you to retrieve more accurate and relevant results. |

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**Library Support for Academic Staff**:

<http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/services-and-support/staff>

<http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/social-sciences/resource>