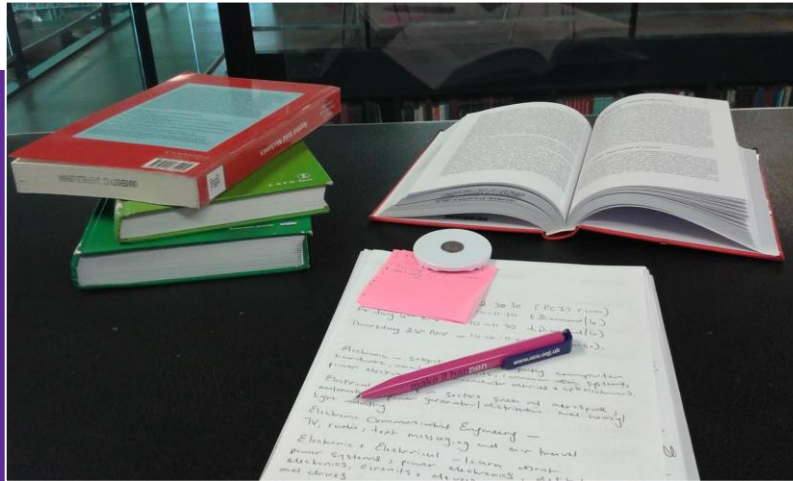


Preparing for your 3rd year project

Emily Stock - The University Library



What's new - the physical library

The Diamond - Library Connect contains a small collection of most borrowed books

Level 4 reference collection - the same titles but for only for use in the library

Western Bank Library - research monographs / current print journals (many titles are available online)

Information Commons - titles recommended for teaching



What's new - online resources

StarPlus - new look

Access from “My Services” in MUSE

To get full access to subscriptions make sure your name is at the top of the page

[StarPlus tutorial](#)

The screenshot shows the StarPlus website interface. At the top, a dark grey header bar contains the user's name 'Stock, Emily' and links for 'e-Shelf', 'myLibrary Account', and 'Log out'. Below this is a navigation bar with links for 'Find Databases', 'New Search', 'ejournals A-Z', 'Library home page', and 'Help'. The main content area features the University of Sheffield logo and the 'StarPlus University Library discovery' branding. A search bar is prominently displayed with a 'Search' button and an 'Advanced Search' link. Below the search bar, there are three tabs: 'Everything', 'University Collections', and 'Articles and More'. A featured section for the 'Sunday Times Digital Archive' includes a 'Find Out More' button and a preview of newspaper facsimiles. At the bottom, a blue navigation bar contains three main sections: 'Sunday Times Digital Archive', 'StarPlus new design', and 'New Online Resource', each with a left or right arrow indicating further navigation.

The different search boxes



The screenshot shows the top section of the StarPlus library discovery page. On the left is the University of Sheffield crest and name. To its right is the 'StarPlus' logo with the tagline 'University Library discovery'. Below these are three tabs: 'Everything' (highlighted in blue), 'University Collections' (highlighted with a red rectangle), and 'Articles and More'. A search bar contains the text 'To find printed books, ebooks, journal titles and databases such as IEEE Xplore'. To the right of the search bar is a blue 'Search' button. Below the search bar is a grey button labeled 'Advanced Search'.

- You can limit your results to “full text online” if you are working off-campus
- Click “Get it” to see where a print book is kept in the Library
- Click “View to” to access a full text ebook or journal

Search tips

Take time to plan your search strategy

Get your ideas clear before you start searching. List the **key concepts** or **terms** in your project title and then try to think of alternative terms you could use to start your search.

renewable energy	grid	challenges
sustainable energy	grid system	difficulties
green energy	smart grid	barriers

You can build up your keywords as you search. Look out for indexed keywords listed below the abstract of a journal article.

Think carefully about the types of information you need for your assignment

An introduction or explanation?



Textbook, lecture notes

The latest research?



Academic journal, conference proceeding,
subject search engine (database)

An opinion?



Newspaper, blog, industry magazine

A technical publication or standard?



Specialist subject database - British Standards Online (BSOL)

An official report?



Government website, professional publication

Individual databases - access from University Collections in StarPlus

StarPlus is a good starting point but you will also need to use databases. Databases search hundred of journals at the same time -

IEEE Xplore (Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers)

Scopus - multidisciplinary database

Web of Science - multidisciplinary

British Standards Online (BSOL)

ASM Handbooks Online (American Society



Database

Add to eShelf

IEEE Xplore [electronic resource].

New York, N.Y. : IEEE, 200?

● **Online access**

[View It](#) [Details](#)

[Open source in a new window](#)

Full text available at [view full text](#)

Public notes:
Read about and connect to Library database

Your resources guide - engineering

If you want to know more about the Library's resources take a look at our subject guides:

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/subjects/eng>

You can find out about key databases and useful web resources.

Subject guide for Engineering

[Virtual tour for Engineering students](#)

Key resources	
Use StarPlus to find online and print materials including books, journals and databases.	The Informa books recom will also be a study enviroi and silent stu
Use myResource Lists to find materials on your reading lists.	Information.

Key databases
ASM Handbooks Online - Access the complete content of 30 ASM Handbooks .
ASME - Access journals, conference proceedings and e-books published by the (ASME). Topics include design and manufacturing, emerging technologies, ene
ASTM standards and engineering digital library - search for standards, special ASTM. The digital library covers a broad range of engineering disciplines inclu science, mechanical and civil.

Evaluate your sources

Evaluate the information that you find to ensure that it is reliable, accurate and relevant to your assignment.



Evaluating information and critical thinking

Learn how to think critically about your information sources, and evaluate information that you find to ensure that it is reliable, accurate, of good quality, and relevant to your assignment.

More advice on evaluating information and critical thinking can be found in our online tutorial. Information Skills Resource - <http://www.librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/thinking.html>

What questions can I ask to help me decide what's reliable and relevant?

- Who is the author?
- What arguments are being put forward?
- When was it published?
- Are statements backed up with evidence?
- Are the references used appropriate?
- Is there a piece of information that you feel is missing?
- Could there be any outside influences being put on the research?
- Who was it commissioned by?

Always acknowledge the ideas of others

Plagiarism is taking another person's words, ideas, images or data and, intentionally or unintentionally, submitting them as your own.



Plagiarism

Understand plagiarism, the difference between collaboration and collusion, and improve your academic writing.

More guidance on understanding plagiarism can be found in our online tutorial. Information Skills Resource - <http://www.librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/writing.html>

Referencing can help you to avoid plagiarism

**Referencing guides are
available from the Information
Skills Resource**

**Check with your tutor which style
you should use**

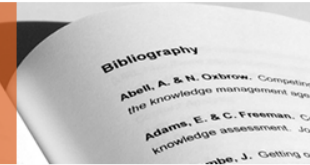
<http://www.librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/>

Information Skills Resource

You are here: Home > The University Library > Information Skills Resource > Referencing...

Referencing...

Find the style of referencing recommended
by your department.



Correct referencing is not only an essential component of academic writing, but will also help you correctly in the style required by your department using the tutorials below.



Departmental styles

Referencing tutorials: Select your department ▼ Go

- Referencing tutorials: Select your department
- Animal and Plant Sciences (Harvard)
- Archaeology (Harvard)
- Architecture (MHRA)
- Biomedical Science (Harvard)
- Chemistry (Royal Society of Chemistry)
- Dentistry (Harvard)
- East Asian Studies
- Economics (Harvard)
- Education (APA)
- Engineering (Harvard)
- Engineering (IEEE)**
- English Language and Linguistics (MHRA Author-Date)



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

The
University
Library.



Need to find quality information for your assignment or dissertation?

Book onto a workshop now!

shef.ac.uk/library/infoskillsworkshops

SEARCH • FIND • EVALUATE • ORGANISE • REFERENCE

Library Skills Room, Fourth Floor, The Diamond

Good luck with your project!

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e.stock@sheffield.ac.uk

[@eng_librarian](#)
[Librarians' Blog for Science & Engineering](#)