Identifying key themes and efficient storage for qualitative analysis

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Aim: This research project aims to identify key themes or shared topics between multiple qualitative sources at once, and then store them according to the relevance or information revealed.

Why: This it to make the research process more efficient and makes it easier for the researcher, or other collaborators, to access sources much later in the research process and retain appropriate knowledge and information about each source and which part of the project it contributes to.

Useful for: This is useful for students and researchers in the social sciences and in disciplines where large numbers of textual sources are used to create literature reviews, comparative analysis or qualitative analysis.

Significance: Makes the research process more efficient, removes time constraints and reduces stress. This process is applicable to any research project that requires a number of textual or qualitative sources for analysis.

Additional information: Released under GNU General Public License v3.0. Further details can be found on github at: *https* : *//github.com/MQ − FOAR*705*/E − Kirkpatrick − Pico − Presentation* and *https* : *//github.com/MQ − FOAR*705*/E − Kirkpatrick − PoC − project*

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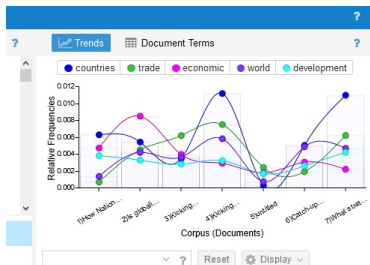[1] **Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW**

Image 1: Demonstrates trends between sources using Voyant tools. This can be used to identify relevance of sources, pinpoint exact areas and help understand where a source can contribute to the project in relation to others.
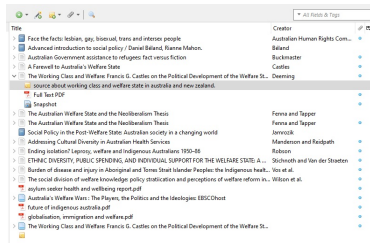

Image 2: Displays how sources are stored in Zotero together. Here they can be grouped according to information identified using Voyant, annotations added and tags. This makes it easier to use them in future stages of research.

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Using Voyant tools: *https* : *//voyant − tools.org/*

Voyant tools is an open-sourced, web-based application for textual analysis. It can be accessed via any web browser here:

The tools can be used to pinpoint certain sections of the text and identify shared key themes. It also highlights the relevance of each source. According to information identified in Voyant, creates the relevant information that will be used to tag, annotate and groups sources together in Zotero.
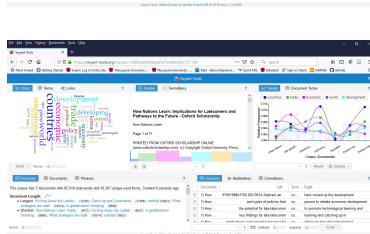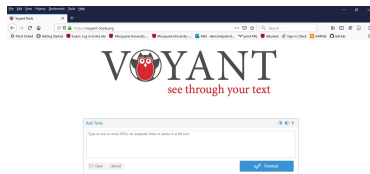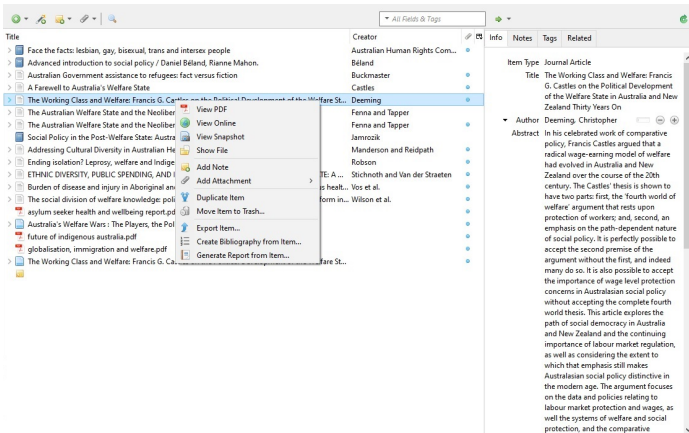
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Transferring to Zotero: The above image displays a list of sources stored in the Zotero library. The right hand panel demonstrates the metadata that is stored with the source which can be automatically generated into a bibliographic entry or citation.

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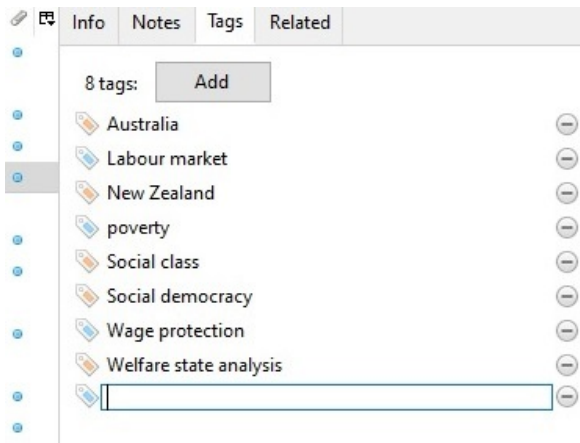[1] Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW

Using the information collected from Voyant, detailed annotations about each source can be stored in Zotero. This becomes very useful in the later stages of the research process.

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The information collected from Voyant and entered into the annotations can be further shortened into tags which group sources together according to their relevance. Tags should be short and concise.

Sources can be searched for via tag, author, key words or title in Zotero. The image above displays sources that are grouped together by the tag "labour market". The image shows the source pdf file, the snapshot of the website it was extracted from and that there has been an annotation added.

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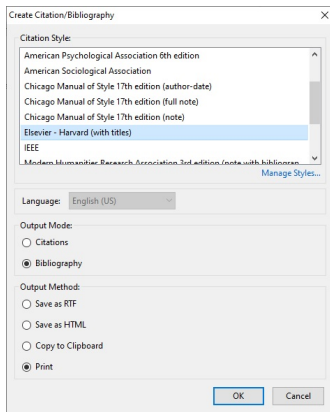
The image above displays the bibliographic generator which can be accessed from right-clicking a source in the Zotero library. This can then be transferred to a word publisher program which makes maintaining large bibliographies much easier and saves time.

More information on this presentation and related content can be found here:

- **Pico Presentation:** https://github.com/MQ-FOAR705/E-Kirkpatrick-Pico-Presentation
- **Proof of Concept, Images and Project Management:** https://github.com/MQ-FOAR705/E-Kirkpatrick-PoC-project