# Choosing a Citation Manager

Marco Seiferle-Valencia
Open Education Librarian - University of Idaho
marcosv@uidaho.edu



### Citation Managers General Points

- Today we'll be discussing Zotero, Mendeley, and EndNote
- Most have the same base functionalities
- Small advantages and drawbacks to each



#### Key Questions:

- What type of information am I trying to cite?
- Where is the information I am trying to cite hosted/stored?
- Who will I want to share my citations with?
- Are there any other special considerations?



	Endnote	Zotero	Mendeley
Developer	Clarivate Analytics	Center for History and New Media/George  Mason University	Elsevier, Inc.
Website	Endnote: www.endnote.com and/or Endnote Web: www.myendnoteweb.com	www.zotero.org	www.mendeley.com
Cost	Desktop version  Web version - free to U-Idaho	Free as Firefox-based plugin or Zotero  Standalone desktop application with plugins for Chrome and Safari	Free for use/basic storage (more storage available for fees, a.k.a. freemium)
Word Processor Integration	MS Word	MS Word and Open Office	MS Word and Open Office
Attach files (PDF) to references	Yes	Yes	Yes
Extract metadata from a PDF	Older versions: Yes - if connected to Internet	Yes - if connected to internet	Yes
Citing from Web	Yes - install bookmark	Yes	Yes - install bookmark
Sharing w/ Colleagues	Yes	Yes	Yes
Direct Export from databases	Yes; e.g. Web of Science "endnote" link	Yes; e.g. Web of Science "other" link	Yes.
Transfer libraries	Yes - use .ris, .bib or Endnote XML	Yes - use .ris or .bib	Yes - use .ris or .bib or Endnote XML
Learning Curve	Moderate	Easiest	Easy



a York University [CA] https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/research-learn/citations/zotero-vs-mend My Drupal 7 admi... publication city. \* Zotero may leave out Very Good information such as the Good Webpages (Adequate) publication city and Adequate edition \* ■ Mendeley will import some metadata from webpages, but you may have to Webpages (Good) go back and add in the author's name, publication year, and other Zotero will import most of information. the metadata from webpages, but you may YouTube videos (Adequate) have to add or edit

- Mendelev will import some metadata from YouTube videos, but you may have to go back and add in the author's name, date it was posted, and other information.
- \* Always double-check your entries to ensure that complete details about the item have been imported. Mendeley is excellent at capturing metadata from PDFs, but not as thorough with other sources.

elements like publication date and author. \*

#### YouTube videos (Very Good)

- Zotero will import almost all of the metadata from YouTube videos. You may need to edit the information depending on the citation style you use. \*
- \* Always double-check your entries to ensure that complete details about the item have been imported. Zotero is excellent at capturing metadata from PDFs, but not as thorough with other sources.

### Citation Managers General Points

- Zotero is freeware and is built with pain-free citing from the web in mind
- Mendeley is well-reviewed for PDF's, can even annotate PDFs
- Cross-compatible, but via export/import RIS file

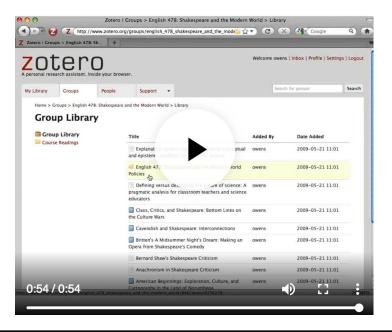


### Mendeley Groups Function





## **Zotero Groups Function**





#### Additional Resources

- https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/research-learn/citations/zotero-vs-men deley-comparison/
- Importing from one to another: https://guides.lib.unc.edu/c.php?g=9333&p=46047
- Email Marco at <u>marcosv@uidaho.edu</u>
- This presentation: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/vandalcitation">https://tinyurl.com/vandalcitation</a>



	Endnote	Zotero	Mendeley
Developer	Clarivate Analytics	Center for History and New Media/George  Mason University	Elsevier, Inc.
Website	Endnote: www.endnote.com and/or Endnote Web: www.myendnoteweb.com	www.zotero.org	www.mendeley.com
Cost	Desktop version  Web version - free to U-Idaho	Free as Firefox-based plugin or Zotero  Standalone desktop application with plugins for Chrome and Safari	Free for use/basic storage (more storage available for fees, a.k.a. freemium)
Word Processor Integration	MS Word	MS Word and Open Office	MS Word and Open Office
Attach files (PDF) to references	Yes	Yes	Yes
Extract metadata from a PDF	Older versions: Yes - if connected to Internet	Yes - if connected to internet	Yes
Citing from Web	Yes - install bookmark	Yes	Yes - install bookmark
Sharing w/ Colleagues	Yes	Yes	Yes
Direct Export from databases	Yes; e.g. Web of Science "endnote" link	Yes; e.g. Web of Science "other" link	Yes.
Transfer libraries	Yes - use .ris, .bib or Endnote XML	Yes - use .ris or .bib	Yes - use .ris or .bib or Endnote XML
Learning Curve	Moderate	Easiest	Easy

