Referencing

Referencing is a critical part of most university assessment. For those of you who have never come across referencing, it can be described as giving credit where credit is due by acknowledging the author/owner of intellectual property i.e. making ‘reference’ to the work of others. This is considered a key principle of academic integrity and is seen as a way of respecting the work of others and tracking the evolution of ideas. All references used must have been read by you and should appear in a reference list at the end of your presentation.

Different journals have different referencing styles, which need to be followed by the authors. In keeping with a tradition in science publishing, the following guidelines need to be followed for the purpose of consistency in this course.

Guide to citing references in your reference list:

**Journal articles**

Articles from scientific journals should have the following information in this sequence:

- Surname(s) and initials of ALL author(s)
- Year of publication (in brackets)
- Title of article (in single quotation marks and followed by a comma)
- Name of journal (in *italics* and followed by a comma; you can use abbreviations but do not use stops)
- Volume number (followed by a comma)
- First and last page numbers (separated by a hyphen and followed by a stop).

**Examples:**


**Books:**

Should have the following information in this sequence:

- Surname(s) and initials of author(s)
- Year of publication (in brackets)
- Title of publication (*italicised* and followed by a comma)
- Volume number (followed by a comma)
- Edition (other than the first edition, followed by a comma)
- Editor (followed by a comma)
- Publisher (followed by a comma)
- Place of publication (followed by a stop)

**Example:**

**Newspaper**

**Example:**

**Electronic information**

This is often tricky information to reference and is often the most commonly used by students. There are many variations on this format but just remember that the principles are the same as other references and should have at least the following information in this sequence:

- Surname(s) and initials of all author(s). The author(s) can often be found at the bottom of the site, or in amongst the text on the page. If no author is provided then use the name of the organization, company or government division that maintains the website, and failing this you may use the name/title of the web page.
- The date (in brackets) - The last updated date can be used to cite a date and is often at the bottom of the page. Failing this cite n.d. – no date.
- The title (italicized and followed by a comma) - should be the title of the page you are reading not the whole web site.
- The date last accessed (followed by a comma) – this is the date you most recently accessed the website.
- The URL – so that it is really easy for the reader to find your source.

Above all remember you must have enough information so that the reader can locate the exact site that you have visited.

**Examples:**

**Web document with an author**