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Plagiarism and the Art of Referencing

library@tcd.ie|www.tcd.ie/library|@tcdlibrary

Overview

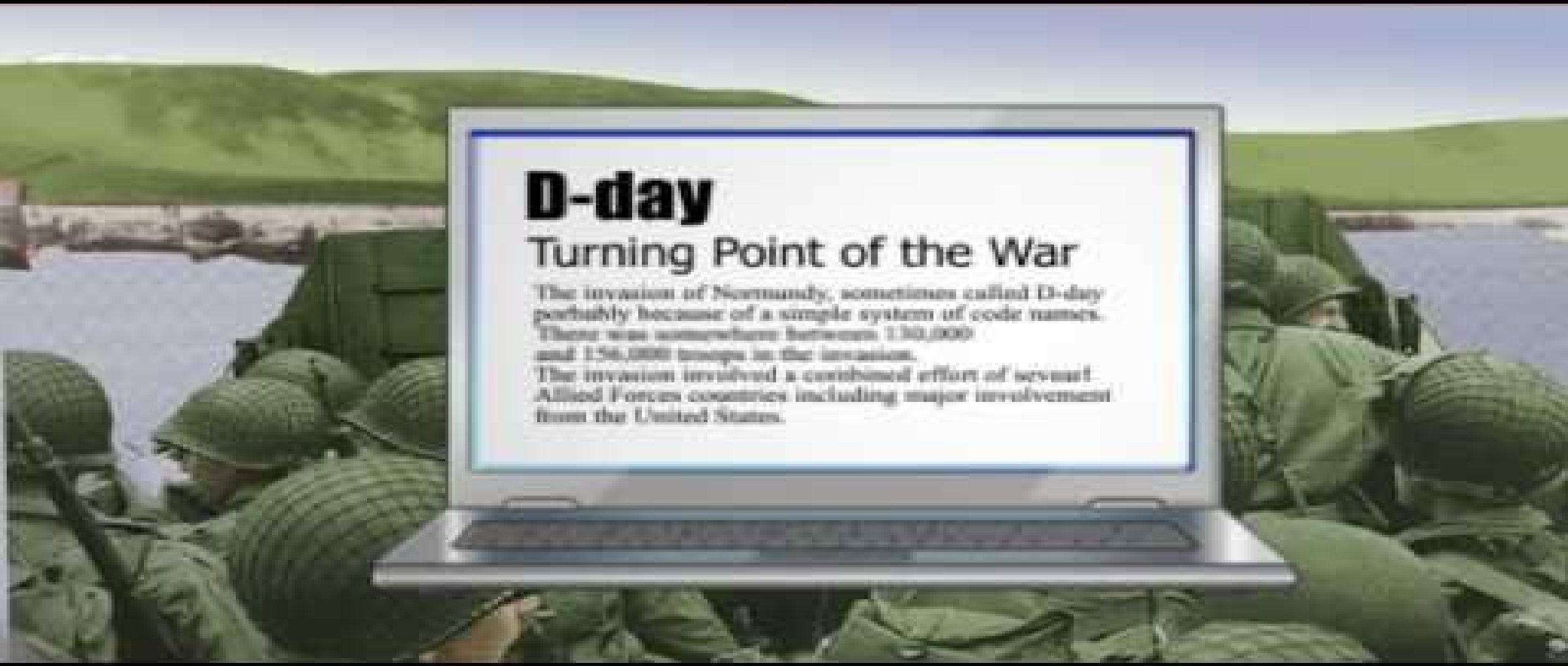
- Definition of plagiarism
- Consequences
- Detection (Turnitin)
- Citing/Referencing
- Keeping accurate records and reference management tools

What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is using another person's work without giving him or her credit

If you are using somebody else's words, images, music, or ideas you must acknowledge (cite) the original source. More on this later!

Source: https://pbs.twimg.com/media/ECVAAgJWsAED0Ko?format=jpg&name=large

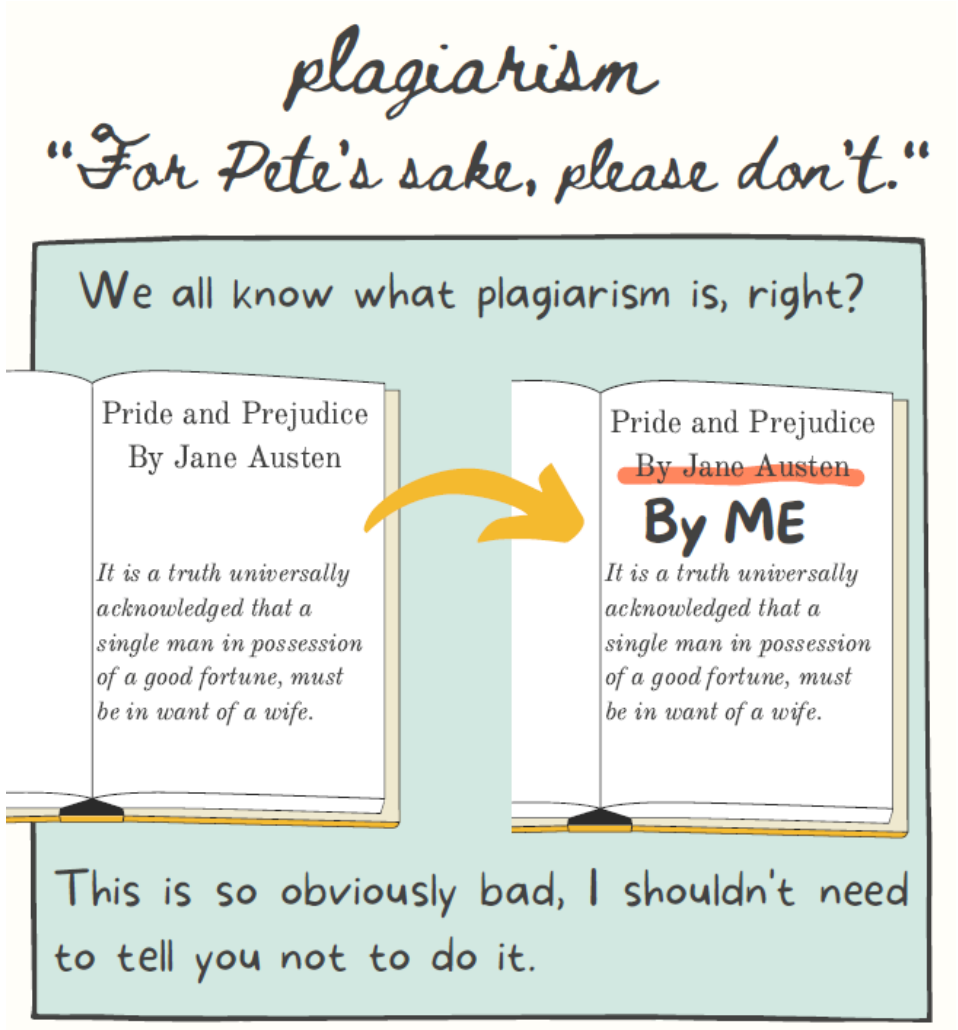


Source: http://youtu.be/2q0NlWcTq1Y, Bainbridge State College

ANOTHER EXCELLENT RESOURCE

A great quick guide by Emily Myers from the University of Connecticut

Downloadable copy available from the Library website



Be careful if giving a speech…

Was Melania Trump's speech plagiarized from Michelle Obama?

Side by side video:

https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/politics/elections/2016/2016/07/19/87281482/

Melania Trump vs. Michelle Obama speeches

https://eu.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/07/19/melania-trump-republican-convention-speech-plagiarism/87278088/

USA TODAY

remarkably similar to a passage from first lady Michelle Obama's speech at the Democratic National Convention eight years earlier in Denver.

Here's the excerpt from Obama in 2008:

> "And Barack and I were raised with so many of the same values: that you work hard for what you want in life; that your word is your bond and you do what you say you're going to do; that you treat people with dignity and respect, even if you don't know them, and even if you don't agree with them.
>
> "And Barack and I set out to build lives guided by these values, and to pass them on to the next generation. Because we want our children — and all children in this nation — to know that the only limit to the height of your achievements is the reach of your dreams and your willingness to work for them."

And here's the passage from Trump's remarks Monday night that came under scrutiny:

> "From a young age, my parents impressed on me the values that you work hard for what you want in life, that your word is your bond and you do what you say and keep your promise, that you treat people with respect.
>
> They taught and showed me values and morals in their daily lives. That is a lesson that I continue to pass along to our son. And we need to pass those lessons on to the many

Consequences of plagiarism in Trinity

Detected plagiarism can carry severe consequences

It is the *act* of plagiarism that is punished, regardless as to whether you meant to plagiarise or not

You must complete the College's "Ready Steady Write" plagiarism tutorial (available on the Library's Academic Integrity website) and sign a declaration when submitting course work, whether in hard or soft copy or via Blackboard, confirming that you understand what plagiarism is and have completed the tutorial

Academic Integrity – Library website

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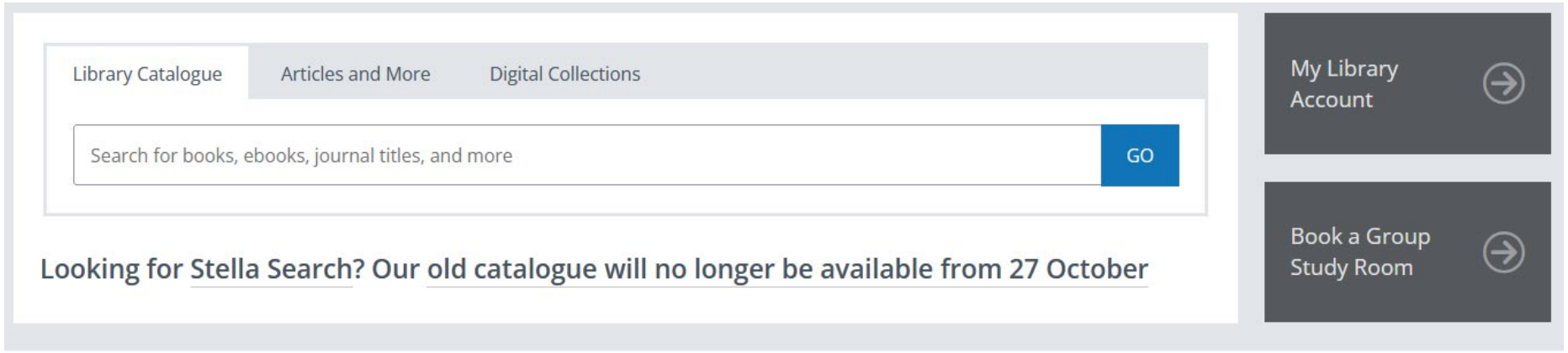

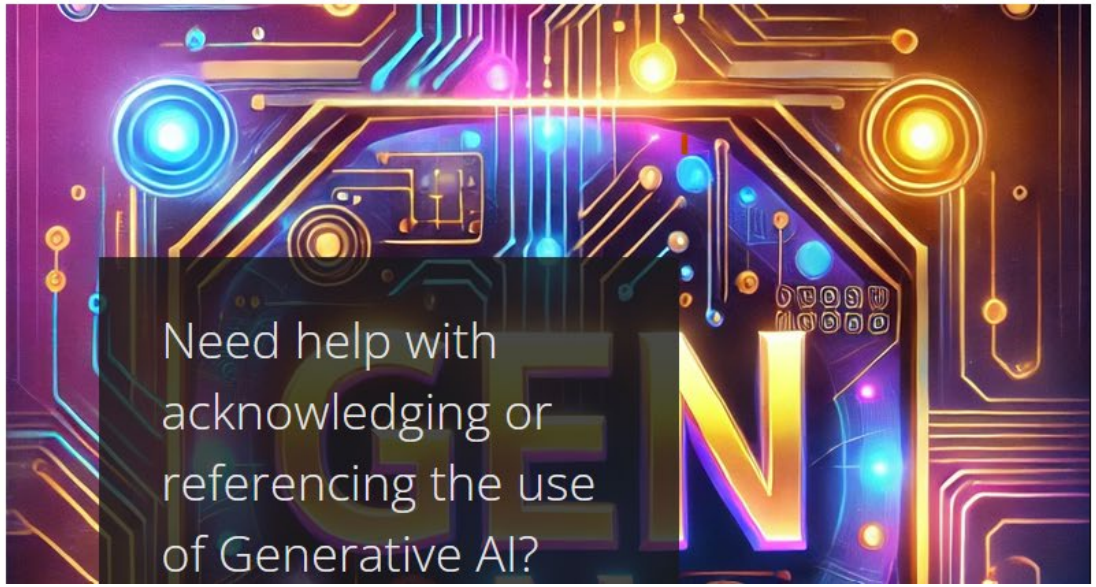

- Admissions
- Academic Integrity
- Borrowing & Renewing
- Databases & eBooks
- EndNote
- FAQs
- An Inclusive Library

READY, STEADY, WRITE TUTORIAL (AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY'S *ACADEMIC INTEGRITY* WEBSITE)

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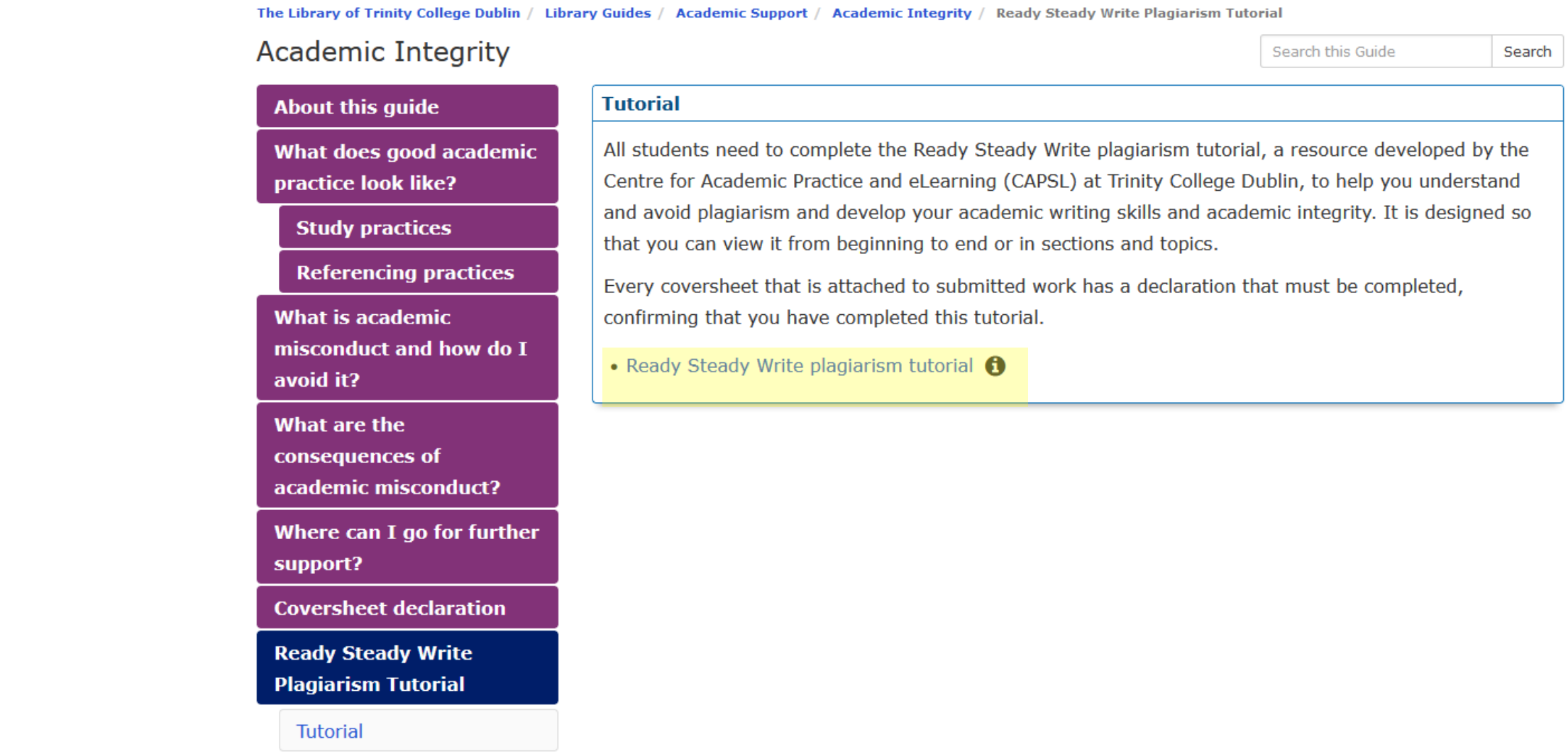

COVERSHEET REQUIRED FOR EACH PIECE OF SUBMITTED WORK

Text of Declaration

Each coversheet that is attached to submitted work should contain the following completed declaration:

I have read and understood the plagiarism provisions in the General Regulations of the University Calendar for the current year, found at http://www.tcd.ie/calendar.

I have also read and understood the guide, and completed the 'Ready Steady Write' Tutorial on avoiding plagiarism, located at https://libguides.tcd.ie/academic-integrity/ready-steady-write.

Detecting plagiarism

Lecturers and examiners will be familiar with key sources and will notice when information has been used from them, as well as differences in style, terminology and accuracy in an essay

In addition, the vast majority of courses in Trinity use Turnitin to check written submissions for plagiarism. This compares submitted work to a database of websites, articles, books and student papers

TURNITIN - SIMILARITY SCORE

The “similarity score” is not a measure of plagiarism!

You may have a high similarity score but that might be satisfactory as long as you have made sure to cite all your references

You may have a low score but you could have been heavily paraphrasing other sources without citation

TURNITIN – HELP

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For help on how to use Turnitin, see Academic Practice's advice (go to the *Turnitin Assignments in Blackboard*)

https://alt-62b985ffa0afc.blackboard.com/bbcswebdav/institution/studenthelp/index.html#assignments-turnitin

CONCERNS AROUND…

- Paraphrasing
- Copying and Pasting
- Quoting
- Common knowledge

PARAPHRASING

There is nothing wrong with including short paraphrases of others' work (it demonstrates processing/synthesis) but you must *attribute the ideas to them*

Think carefully though if you decide to use a long segment of paraphrasing as you are likely to lose marks on stylistic grounds, but note this is not plagiarism as long as you have proper citations – just poor writing/style!

Copying from the Internet or AI…

"Copy and paste" is *very* easy to detect, but so is "Copy, shake and paste" – mixing up paragraph order, changing words etc. to make lifted sections appear different. And there are "tells" for use of AI!

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRODESfNzcc

USING QUOTES

You will be given guidance by your department on how exactly to use quotations in your work. Any direct quotes (i.e., in a sentence) of another's words must be put into quotation marks and attributed

Block quotes (longer quotes as a separate paragraph) should generally be used sparingly, as overuse will demonstrate you have little original material of your own to add!

COMMON KNOWLEDGE? IF IN DOUBT, CITE!

Common knowledge depends on the discipline

In all academic or professional fields, experts regard some ideas as common knowledge

This is generally defined as facts, dates, events and information that are expected to be known by someone studying or working in a particular field

Class Discussion

You wrote an excellent essay on a topic last year. You now have to write again on the same topic for a different class for a different tutor…

Can you reuse the same essay?

If not, what do you do?

This can be a surprisingly tricky question to answer…

Any questions?

We will look at:

- Citing/referencing
- Managing references

What is the point of acknowledging sources through citations?

"*If I have seen further it is by standing on ye shoulders of Giants*" (Newton, 1676)

Papers on the same subjects will use similar terminology, and draw on the ideas and research that has gone before. This is an expected and necessary part of research

However, it is also expected that you credit your sources by citing them

This allows readers of your work to find the original sources and see if you have adequately represented their ideas, and shows you are not trying to claim those ideas as your own

Poll: What referencing style have you been told to use?

1. **“Harvard”**
2. **APA**
3. **Vancouver**
4. **Chicago**
5. **Irish Historical Studies**
6. **Any you like**
7. **Another**
8. **Don’t know**

There are many different citation styles used in Trinity – your supervisor, course director or school/departmental administrator will advise if you should use a particular citation style

Citation styles

Guides for each style will tell you how to format the references:

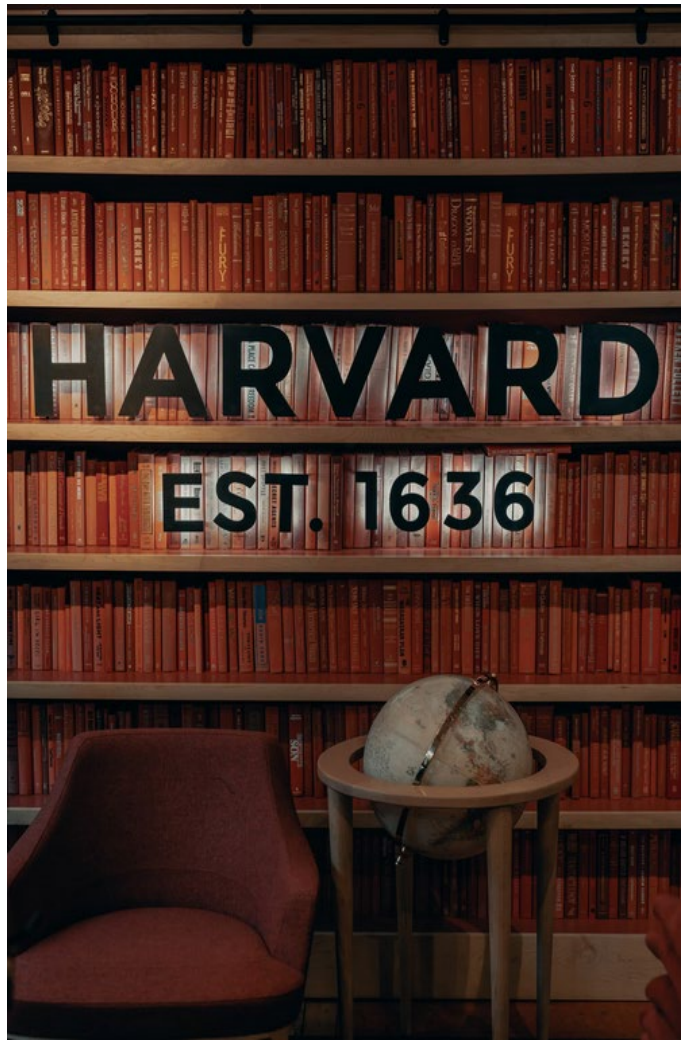
- Details on which order to present the bibliographic information
- Grammar instructions such as how to use punctuation and capitalisation – e.g., what is italicised… where the full stops and commas go…
- Different rules will apply to different formats of sources (journal articles, book with one author, books with several authors, edited books, chapters in edited books, webpages, reports, films, YouTube videos, e-mails, etc. etc…)

Citation styles

There are *thousands* of citation styles, but most are based on one of three broad types:

- Parenthetical/Inline
- Numbered
- Footnotes

Parenthetical citations



PARENTHETICAL CITATIONS

Parenthetical styles are sometimes called the “Harvard” style as they were first used at Harvard in the 1880s

They are called “Parenthetical” styles as they enclose the partial information in brackets

They are also sometimes called “Inline” styles

Most use author and date and so those styles are often referred to as Author-Date styles

Not all use author-date, e.g, MLA uses author and page number

Parenthetical citations

Parenthetical citations use a brief summary of the reference in the text (such as listing the author and date, or the author and title, or author and page) with the full reference stated at the end of the chapter or work

This final list is called a reference list or bibliography (generally used interchangeably, although there are technically differences)

Usually, the full list of references will be in alphabetical order by the first author's surname

Parenthetical citations are mostly used in the sciences and social sciences, but are becoming more common in the arts and humanities

Our Example

Reference Type: Journal Article

Author: McClimens, Alex; Kenyon, Lynn; and Cheung, Heidi

Year: 2013

Title: Exploring placement pathways in nurse education

Journal: British Journal of Nursing

Volume: 22

Issue: 1

Pages: 8-15

DOI: 10.12968/bjon.2013.22.1.8

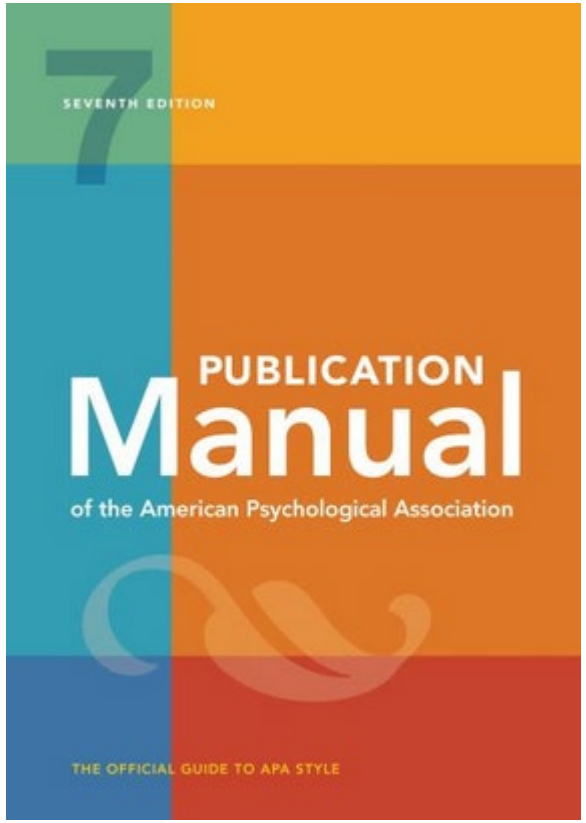
In the text:

…it's clear that integrated care places new demands on students (McClimens et al., 2013)

Reference list:

McClimens, A., Kenyon, L., & Cheung, H. (2013). Exploring placement pathways in nurse education. *British Journal of Nursing*, 22(1), 8-15. https://doi.org/10.12968/bjon.2013.22.1.8

Style Guides



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2nd Floor
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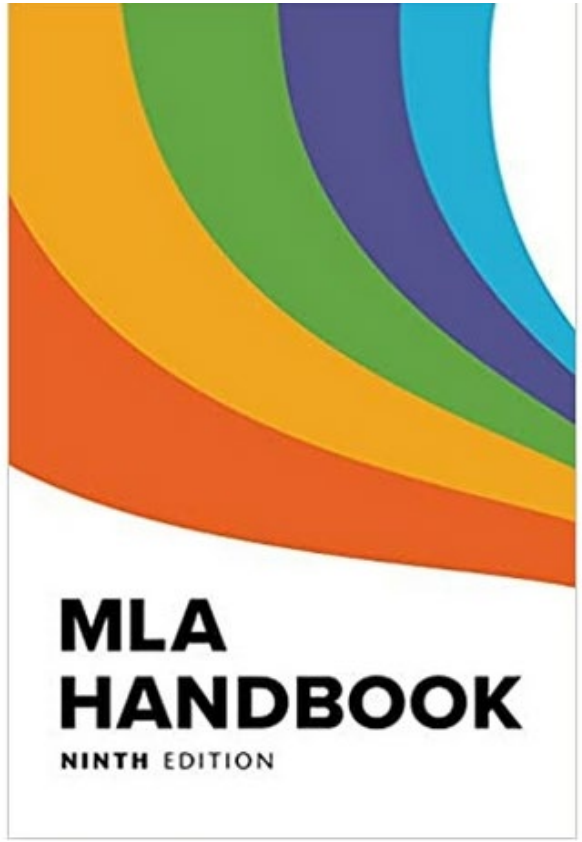

Ussher
1st Floor
REF 808 P34*6

Numbered styles

Numbered styles list references in the order they are mentioned, using a digit in the text to refer to the fuller citation at the end

The most common numbered style is Vancouver - while this style has its own particular rules, numbered styles in general are often referred to as Vancouver styles

Other common styles used are IEEE, JAMA, and the Lancet

NUMBERED STYLE – VANCOUVER

In the text:

…it's clear that integrated care places new demands on students (1).

Reference list:

1. McClimens A, Kenyon L, Cheung H. Exploring placement pathways in nurse education. British Journal of Nursing. 2013;22(1):8-15.

Numbers are reused for the same reference!

FOOTNOTING STYLES

Like numbered styles, footnoting styles give the reference an ascending number in the text and the full references are listed in that order at the bottom of the page in a footnote.

A full list at the end of the work or chapter may also be required - although unlike with numbered styles, this will be in alphabetical order by surname, rather than in order of mention

The Chicago 18th Edition “Notes and Bibliography” style is the latest version of the best-known footnoting style

Another (used by the School of History here) is the Irish Historical Studies style

Footnote style – Chicago Footnote 17th ed.

In the text:

…it's clear that integrated care places new demands on students[1]

As a footnote at the bottom of the page:

[1] Alex McClimens, Lynn Kenyon, and Heidi Cheung, "Exploring Placement Pathways in Nurse Education," *British Journal of Nursing* 22, no. 1 (2013), https://doi.org/10.12968/bjon.2013.22.1.8.

(elements are separated by commas)

In the reference list, which is in alphabetical order:

McClimens, Alex, Lynn Kenyon, and Heidi Cheung. "Exploring Placement Pathways in Nurse Education." *British Journal of Nursing* 22, no. 1 (2013): 8-15. https://doi.org/10.12968/bjon.2013.22.1.8.

(first author's name inverted, elements are separated by full stops)

Excelsior Online Writing Lab: A great resource for style guides

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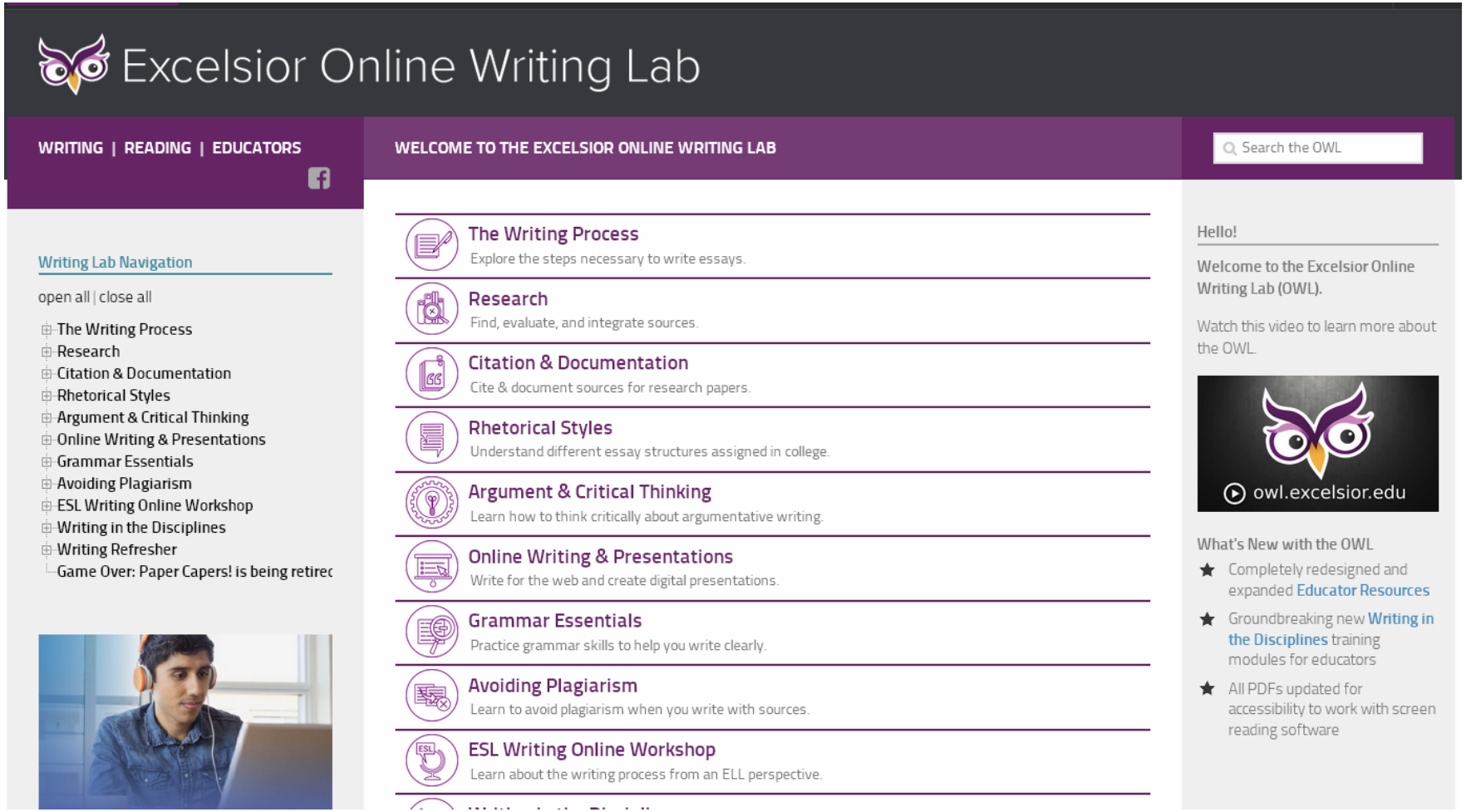
https://owl.excelsior.edu/



Maintaining accurate records

It is vital to maintain accurate records of your sources, in order to be able to properly attribute the phrasing and ideas you draw from them

There are different approaches to keeping accurate records, e.g., you might keep full handwritten or word-processed notes detailing each reference

Another way would be to save particular searches or records (e.g., by marking those records) in individual databases, e.g., JSTOR or PubMed

The *Library Catalogue* and *Articles and More* will allow you to mark records in a similar way and save or e-mail the results to your computer

REFERENCE MANAGEMENT TOOLS

The easiest way to bring together references from all sources is to use bibliographic/reference management tools

These tools allow you to import records from multiple databases, library catalogues, to manually enter citations, and save all your references in one location

They also allow you to grab these records and insert them into documents on which you are working

Have you used any reference management tools before?

1. EndNote
2. Zotero
3. Mendeley
4. Sciwheel/Lean Library Workspace
5. Word's built-in referencing
6. Another
7. None

REFERENCE MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Commonly used tools include: Zotero, EndNote Online, EndNote Desktop and Mendeley

EndNote Online is free for all members of Trinity to use. It is cloud-based, with a small plugin to install on your computer that enables it to be used with Microsoft Word

EndNote Desktop is an app installed on a particular computer – it is also free for all members of Trinity to use and can be downloaded from the Library website. Many researchers find it more powerful than EndNote Online but some use EndNote Desktop and EndNote Online together

The Library provides support for both EndNote Desktop and EndNote Online

Note – Mendeley will NOT currently work if you install Office from Trinity

Gen AI

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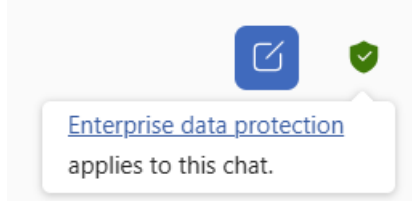
You can use Generative AI *unless you have been told not to by your School, Department, or lecturer*. They may state what use you can make of it, if any

HOWEVER, you need to acknowledge use of it, and *some* reference styles (like APA) mandate that you ALSO put the tool into the reference list

The Library has basic guidance on acknowledging and referencing using Generative AI on its website (link from the large image on the carousel)

Everyone at Trinity has access to the corporate version of Microsoft Copilot (based on ChatGPT) – colloquially known as “ChatTCD”. This shouldn’t harvest your data, and won’t have as many limits as other free tools. Available when logged in with your Trinity account in Edge or at copilot.microsoft.com. Make sure you see the green tick so you know you are using the paid version!



Further resources

General plagiarism questions -

- **start at https://libguides.tcd.ie/academic-integrity and complete the tutorial**
- **e-mail your Subject Librarian**

General referencing questions –

- **try Excelsior Online Writing Lab – a great resource for style guides**
- **e-mail your Subject Librarian**

Turnitin – talk to your supervisor, course director or school/departmental administrator first

Which referencing style to use – talk to your supervisor, course director or school/departmental administrator

EndNote – us again (Library Subject Librarian team)

Academic writing in general – Student Learning Development

PLEASE SCAN TO COMPLETE OUR FEEDBACK FORM

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Any questions?

Thank You

Feel free to contact us with any queries:

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www.tcd.ie/library
@tcdlibrary