Finding information and keeping track of your academic outputs

Susan McCourt & Marlis Barraclough

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Not a traditional academic library building

Photograph acknowledgements: Library staff (many!) & fading isight – Russell Moffatt
Library – why?

• You won’t Google yourself to a PhD!
• Support your studies
• Different research and learning needs
• Electronic and print materials
• Transferable skills
• Knowledgeable and professional staff for help and support
One Library – 3 Sites

The Sir Duncan Rice Library (TSDRL – Bedford Road)
Most subjects except Law, Medicine and Medical Sciences

Taylor Library (Taylor Building, Dunbar St)
Law, UK official publications, OECD and UN publications, European Documentation Centre (EDC)

Medical Library (Polwarth Building, Foresterhill Campus)
Medicine, Dentistry and Medical Sciences
Finding reliable/academic information

• There is no one perfect place to go for all the academic/scholarly information that you will ever need...

• Build up your skills in using the most appropriate tools for the information you need
  • **Primo**
  • **Databases e.g. Scopus, Web of Sciences**
  • **Search engines**
  • **Reference management**

• Workshops are part of the Researcher Development programme (next run of the library workshops will be in late June)
Tools for academic information

• Tools depend on the type of information you’re looking for
  • **Books**: Primo, subscribed sites (e.g. ebrary, Springer, ScienceDirect etc) Google and Google Scholar
  • **Journal articles (research papers)**: databases e.g. Scopus, Web of Science
  • **Reports and operational/commercial/trade/govt information**: Google

• Evaluate what you find. Keep track of where you found your information – needed for referencing
• All tools have search rules - apply them correctly for best results
Why use databases?

• **Essential** that you use research information in support of your thesis
  
  • Academic databases contain information about research published in journals, at seminars and conferences
  
  • Databases offer powerful searching, sorting and displaying features
  
  • If we could get by using just Google and Google Scholar we wouldn’t spend £300,000 each year on databases...

• Most effective way to find out about published research is to search across academic databases
Most relevant databases?

- **Scopus** and **Web of Science** are the biggest and broadest
  - Bibliographic with links via SFX to paid for electronic books and journals
- **Examples of some specialist databases:**
  - **Medline** is the largest medical database (also available as PubMed)
  - **ABI Inform** and **Econlit** are specialist business, management and economics databases
  - **ATLA** is the biggest religion database
  - **LION (Literature Online)** useful for topics related to English
  - **Lexis®Library, HeinOnline** and **Westlaw** are core databases in law
  - **Lyell Collection** and **GeoRef** for geosciences
  - **OnePetro** for oil, gas, energy related topics
  - **IEEE Xplore** for engineering and technology disciplines
  - **Reaxys** specialist chemistry database
- **JSTOR** full text database - extremely useful for older material (covers most subject areas, although not engineering)
Information Skills Workshops

• Library induction: 9 or 10 times a year
• Workshops within the Researcher Development programme run in November, February and June.
  • Part 1: Concentrates on books and search engines
  • Part 2: Effective use of databases. Concentrates on resources such as Scopus, Web of Science
  • Part 3: RefWorks for managing references and producing formatted documents
  • Next run: June - dates still to be confirmed
• Use the course booking system to book
• Advertised:
  • Email to registered PhD students
  • UoA weekly ezine
Other workshops

• Critical Appraisal of the Literature (for Sciences and Medical Sciences)
  • Runs December, March and summer (date to be confirmed).
  • Next run: Friday 3 March (1000-1200)
    • Places still available
• Working with Long Documents (IT Services)
  • Especially useful for your thesis
• Use the course booking system to book
• Booking on courses: PLEASE cancel your booking in advance if you know you are unable to attend
Keep track of your outputs: using Pure
Recording the outcomes of your research

• Through our institutional research information system Pure
• log on at www.abdn.ac.uk/pure with your usual ID/password
• Record research outcomes and activities: publications, posters, presentations, conferences, training…. CV generator
• Link to ORCID accounts
• Populates institutional personal webpages

Why not other platforms?
• Pure is supported and validated by the University
• no charges or subscription
• helps to enable open access
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• ensures your presence on the institutional research portal and repository
Personal Pure Profile – record your achievements
Private CV

The private CV can be used to export your selected data from Pure to PDF and Word. The CV is only visible for you, for CV editors related to you and for administrators.

School of Psychology
Postal address:
Old Aberdeen
Email: rO1hca@abdn.ac.uk

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Employment

PHD PSYCH SCI
Biological Motion Perception and Attention in Healthy Aging
School of Psychology
University of Aberdeen
United Kingdom
Supervised by: Karin Stefanie Pitz, Louisa Helen Phillips, Karin Stefanie Pitz, Louisa Helen Phillips, Louisa Helen Phillips, Karin Stefanie Pitz
1 Oct 2014 – 30 Sep 2017

Research output

Motion coherence and direction discrimination in healthy aging
Pitz, K. S., Miller, L. & Agnew, H. C. Jan 2017 In : Journal of Vision. 17, 31
Validated by Library / Public – No restriction

Global form and motion processing in healthy ageing
Approved by Library / Public – No restriction

Biological Motion and Attention in Healthy Ageing
Agnew, H. C. & Pitz, K. S. 2015

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Personal pages on the Research Portal
Get organised!
Library: Subject contacts

• Arts & Humanities
  • Ewan Grant – e.grant@abdn.ac.uk

• Business & Law
  • Janet MacKay – j.i.mackay@abdn.ac.uk

• Dentistry, Medicine & Medical Sciences
  • Mel Bickerton – m.bickerton@abdn.ac.uk

• Education & Social Science
  • Claire Molloy - c.a.l.molloy@abdn.ac.uk

• Engineering, Life & Physical Sciences
  • Susan McCourt – s.mccourt@abdn.ac.uk

• https://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support/contacts/ic/
Useful links

- Information skills workshops: [www.abdn.ac.uk/coursebooking](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/coursebooking)
- Library homepage: [www.abdn.ac.uk/library](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library)
- Information Guides online: [www.abdn.ac.uk/library/supportguides](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/supportguides)
- Primo: [http://primo.abdn.ac.uk](http://primo.abdn.ac.uk)
- Information Consultants: [www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support/contacts/ic](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support/contacts/ic)
- Workshop materials - wiki: [http://finditfastlibraryworkshops.pbworks.com](http://finditfastlibraryworkshops.pbworks.com)
- Email (general library enquiries): library@abdn.ac.uk
- Library blog (InfoLinks): [http://aberdeenunilib.wordpress.com](http://aberdeenunilib.wordpress.com)
- Library on Twitter: [http://aberdeenunilib.wordpress.com](http://aberdeenunilib.wordpress.com)
- Inter-library loan service: [www.abdn.ac.uk/library/facilities/services/interlibrary-loans](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/facilities/services/interlibrary-loans)
Accessing electronic information: detailed information is available in Learners’ Toolkit and library guides.
Help

• Library
  • Subject staff on floors (TSDRL – Floors 3-6)
  • Information Centre staff on Floor 1 (TSDRL)
  • Workshops: November, February and June
  • Subject specialist one-to-one appointments: as required
  • Lots of Library Guides, web pages and instructional materials
  • http://finditfastlibraryworkshops.pbworks.com

• Pure
  • www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/research/pure
  • School contacts
Questions?

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Transforming the world with greater knowledge and learning