Library Support

Staff for Faculty of Creative Arts & Industries

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Answer in CHAT

What is your topic area?

How confident do you feel in the Academic environment?

What do you find most challenging at the moment?
Search Strategies
Define your research query

Mind-mapping  https://coggle.it/

Identify **CONCEPTS**

Identify **KEYWORDS**
Developing your searches: Concept tables

Join different CONCEPTS with AND
Join different SYNONYMS with OR
Literature databases

- Library databases mostly index journal articles
- Many databases multi-disciplinary

Different databases index different content
- Journal coverage may vary
- Some may index conference proceedings and books/reports

There is no one single database for all of your needs
Searching databases

Boolean operators: AND, OR NOT to combine search terms

Truncation symbol (*, $, or ?) to find all versions of a word

Brackets or quotation marks to keep keyword phrases intact:

Wild card search: ? Find all spellings of a word
  Wom?n = Woman, Women
  Colo?r = Color, Colour
Research Log

Keep a record of your searches to maximise your time database searching

What: database

Which: concepts/keyword combinations

Where: abstract/title/keywords/anywhere

Results: number of results
Google Scholar

● Useful multidisciplinary database

● Always log in via the Library website – increases full text access

● It is a subset of total available resources

● Always use in conjunction with other Library databases!
Database suggestions beyond Fine Arts Guide

**Fine Arts**

**Philosopher’s Index**

**Iwidex**

**New Zealand Index**

**DAAI - Design and applied arts Index**

**Art & Architecture archive**

(See also Architecture, Philosophy, Maori Studies & Pacific Studies databases)
Other collections

Special collections

TV & Radio

Manuscript & Archives

Theses
Further resources

**Smudge Skittle** – a little inventory of resources entangling creative practice research and writing.

**Reading effectively** - explores strategies that increase comprehension and recall, including critical reading and active reading.

**Advanced Information Research Skills - AIRS** - Online modules to develop advanced information research skills (QUT Queensland University of Technology)
Reflective writing
Reflective writing

*We do not learn from experience... we learn from reflecting on experience.*

John Dewey

Reflective thinking and writing involves three core phases:

- **Recalling and describing the experience** you engaged with (e.g., a reading, a project you worked on individually or with a group, a theoretical concept, or a business practice).

- **Analysing and interpreting the experience** in relation to your personal perspective and other perspectives (sometimes with reference to a model or theory from your course).

- **Thinking about the implications** for practice and for your learning, and what you would or could do differently.
Consider

Looking at academic writing in general to get familiar with it.

What it may mean for you to “inquiry about your creative practice”.

Writing from the beginning of your programme.

Writing as documenting media for your reflective process and a thinking tool.

Experimenting how you would communicate your ideas and individual journey.

Looking at your writing from the perspective of your reader as well.

There are learning opportunities for you to access (online, w/s, one on one).
Useful sites

Write@uni: module 2 (on critical thinking), section 2.6-2.9 (beyond the first impression), and also module 4 (on writing). Here, there is an annotated music essay (4.8) with general information on writing. University of Auckland.

ELE Online: Writing University of Auckland.


Libraries & Learning Services
Te Tumu Herenga

One to one research consults
Ask Us to book

Drop in sessions
Daily 9am-4pm via Zoom

Academic writing advice
Book an appointment

Library news to keep up to date