

Enhancing the Student Experience  
for Transitioning Students



Library  
www.library.uow.edu.au


# StartSmart

Essential Academic Information Skills




University of Wollongong 

## WHY?



Library  
www.library.uow.edu.au

- Threat to current program
- Insufficient rigour
- Student needs had changed
- Google main search tool
- High confidence levels in skills abilities

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## HOW?



- Research project
- Survey of new students and Teacher Librarians
- Seminar for Teacher Librarians
- Mapping
- Student focus groups

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## Support for academics



Program focuses on:

- Subject Outlines
- Academic, scholarly resources
- Acknowledgement of ideas and work of others
- UOW Graduate Qualities

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## Support for students



- Introduction to academic culture at UOW
- Importance of academic resources
- Help to find and use relevant resources
- Familiarity with academic integrity at UOW
- Knowledge of correctly referencing sources

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## Learning Design





- Four guides
- Learning outcomes articulated and linked to assessment
- Interactive objects to engage learning
- Practice exercises that mimic quiz questions

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# Guide 1



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1. ACADEMIC CULTURE

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**1. ACADEMIC CULTURE**


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Academic Culture

Find out about the importance of Subject Outlines and Reading Lists

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this guide it is expected that you will be able to:

1. Describe UOW academic expectations in terms of identifying and searching for academic information
2. Identify the range of resources and support that the Library provides to assist in researching assignments
3. Recognise the value of the Subject Outlines and Reading Lists provided by lecturers




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essential academic information skills

"Using your subject outlines is a really vital part of your education. ... Read it thoroughly. Read it carefully. Read it frequently."


*Assoc Professor David Vance, Sub Dean, Faculty of Creative Arts.*




# Quiz




- Compulsory
- Certificate of Achievement
- Greater rigour with randomised questions and answers
- Hosted on the Moodle platform
- Feedback provided




## Quiz question example




Page: (Previous) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 **14** 15 16 17 18 (Next)

**14**  Look at the references below. Select the **correct reference type** (book, chapter from an edited book or journal article) using the drop down menu.  
Marks: -/1


Brook, I 2009. 'Turning up the heat on climate change: are transition towns an answer?', <i>Environmental Values</i> , vol.18, no.2, pp125-128.	Choose...
Hassoun, N 2009. 'Free trade and the environment', <i>Environmental Ethics</i> , vol.31, no.1, pp51-66.	Choose...
Musil, B 2007. 'Focus on health', in J Isham & SI Waage (eds), <i>Ignition: What You Can Do to Fight Global Warming and Spark a Movement</i> , Island Press, Washington, DC, pp105-117.	Choose...
Pittock, AB 2009. <i>Climate Change: The Science, Impacts and Solutions</i> . 2nd edn, CSIRO, Collingwood, Vic.	Choose...
Van Beek, E 2009. 'Managing water under current climate variability', in F Ludwig, P Kabat, H van Schaik & M van der Valk (eds), <i>Climate Change Adaptation in the Water Sector</i> , Earthscan, Sterling, VA, pp51-77.	Choose... Choose... Chapter from an edited book Journal article Book


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## Future



- Team was nominated for and won Vice Chancellor's award
- Currently applying for an ALTC Citation
- Regular reviews will be conducted
- Survey students every two years
- Keep in regular contact with teacher librarians



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