ENGE400 Introduction to engineering

Searching and referencing information

Goals for today:
- Search and find the best information for assignments
- Reference information used in your assignment correctly

Why?
- To get good marks
- To improve our research skills for success at university
- To be knowledgeable in our future employment

What sources should we use?
- Google
- Library databases
- Others?

We need to use academic information at university. Library databases provide this information.

If you use other sources think about how reliable they are. Think about:

- **Who** created the information? They may have a bias and try to influence you or make you believe something that is not true.
- **When** was it created? You don’t want to use something that is out-of-date.
- [https://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/findinginfo/choose](https://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/findinginfo/choose)

Become a super searcher

How:
1. Know your topic – keywords and concepts
2. Search in the best places

Example: Bridge construction methods in New Zealand

Keywords:
“Bridge construction” Methods “New Zealand”

Search:
- Google for general information – beware of ‘fake news’
- Google scholar for academic information (go to the Library website first to get access to full-text articles – it will link to articles in a Library database)
• Library Search for books and articles (or specific databases) http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/engineering
• Known websites http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/engineering/Engineering/Websites
• Other sources – images on Google, videos on YouTube, and more

At university you will get better marks if you back up your writing with academic research on the subject.

Reference all resources you use!

**Referencing**


- For academic integrity
- Acknowledge the creator of the work
- Avoid plagiarism

Understand your source of information so you can reference it correctly.

**Examples:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Website</th>
<th><a href="https://www.engineeringnz.org/resources/contracts/">https://www.engineeringnz.org/resources/contracts/</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>check</td>
<td><a href="http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th/websites">http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th/websites</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| PDF on a website | https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/bridge-manual/docs/Bridge-manual-complete-v3.2.pdf |
| check            | http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th/websites#s-lg-box-13315908 |

| check     | http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th/books#s-lg-box-13263299 |
| Note: use | http://www.ebookcentral.proquest.com for the URL |

| check                          | http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th/articles#s-lg-box-13274298 |
| Note: Use Cite option          |

| YouTube video | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JDqVcQHEWM&feature=youtu.be |
| check         | http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th/tvfilmvideo#s-lg-box-13374318 |

In your writing insert a citation. This refers to the full reference at the end of your assignment.

**Example:**

A video on YouTube (*Bridge construction visualisation*, 2018) demonstrates the construction of a bridge.

Engineering New Zealand provides information on engineering construction contracts (Engineering New Zealand, 2019).

“In cantilever construction of long-span cable-stayed bridges the stressing sequence of stays is fundamental for establishing the final configuration of the bridge” (Granata, Longo, Recupero, & Arici, 2018).

Best practices for bridge construction (Khan, 2014) include …

**References**


**Help**

- ✔ Library website [http://library.aut.ac.nz](http://library.aut.ac.nz)
- ✔ Chat – This will open when you are looking at the AUT Library website
- ✔ Your Liaison Librarian - Contact: Anna Matich anna.matich@aut.ac.nz