



Referencing - a guide

...some tips, tools, and advice.



By the end of this session, we will have covered:

- **What is referencing?**
- **Referencing principles**
- **Examples of citation & referencing**
- **Citation & Referencing tools & software**
- **Ethical use of tools & software (AI)**
- **Getting further support**

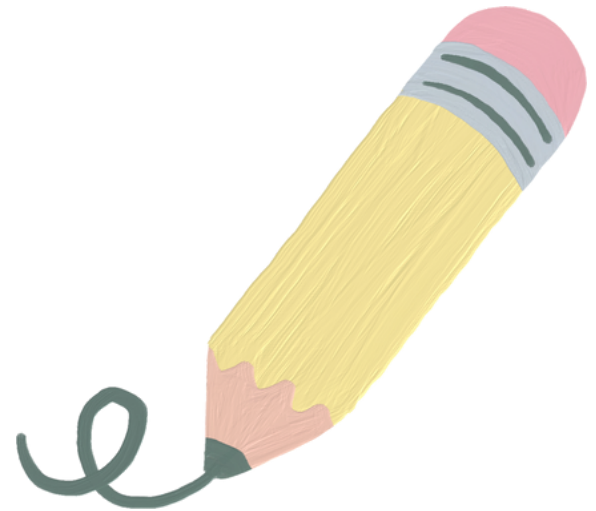


What is referencing?

What is referencing?

Referencing is when we acknowledge sources of information it:

- Gives credit to the original author
- Adds authority to your statements
- is applicable to all types of media (e.g. text, audio, visual etc.)



Why is it important?

Referencing evidences your research.

If you do not cite and reference your work, there can be consequences:

- It can be classed at possible academic misconduct
- You can be marked lower for not referencing, or not doing it correctly.



This is why it's important to take the time to learn which method of referencing is required and how to do it correctly.

Referencing Principles



There are different styles of referencing.

Popular styles for health academics are Harvard and APA - always check with your tutor.

Styles of referencing

All styles of referencing share basic principles:

1

In-text citation

Paraphrasing or direct quotes can be used in the main work.

2

Reference list

At the end of the work, in either chronological order, or alphabetically.

...an example



THE ORIGINAL RESEARCH YOU WANT TO USE IN YOUR WORK

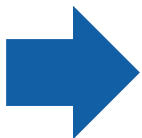
“Treatment of small intestinal bacterial overgrowth (SIBO) is comprised of three broad strategies: (1) induction of remission, (2) maintenance of remission, and (3) treatment/modification of the underlying cause of SIBO. Induction of remission for SIBO can be achieved with antibiotics.”

CITATION IN YOUR WORK

The initial stage of small intestinal bacteria overgrowth (SIBO) treatment, inducing remission, can be achieved through the use of antibiotics (Rezaie, Pimentel, & Rao., 2016).

IN YOUR REFERENCE LIST

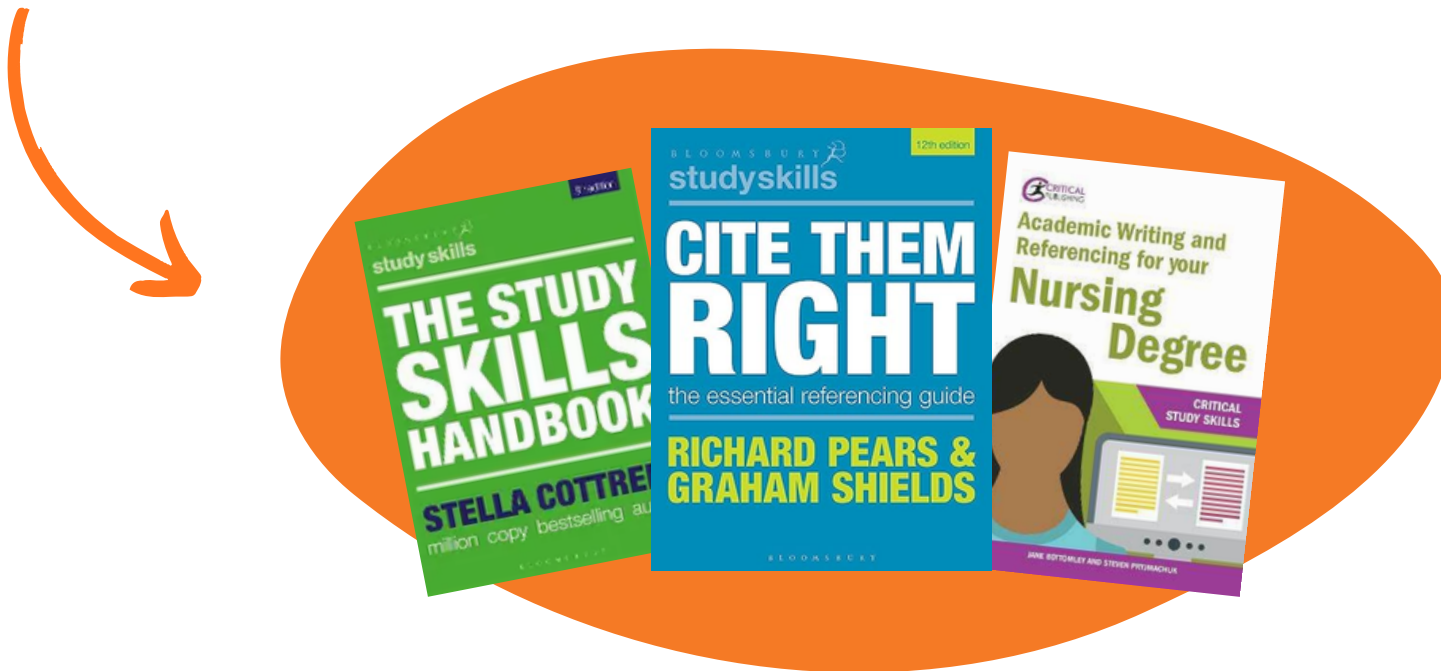
Rezaie, A., Pimentel, M., & Rao, S. S. (2016). How to Test and Treat Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth: an Evidence-Based Approach. *Current Gastroenterology Reports*, 18(2), 8.



Are there more examples & help?

Check out our resources

We have really good study and referencing texts in all our libraries that give examples of different styles of referencing as well as an example of each format to reference (a book, article, website, podcast etc.)



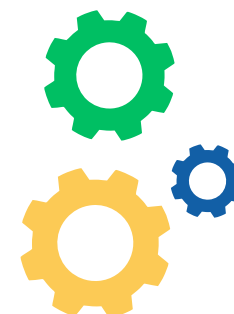
Reference Management

Tools and software we recommend

There are lots of pieces of software and online tools that claim to assist with managing your citations and referencing lists.

Here are some we recommend, some are paid for and some are free:

<u>RefWorks</u>	Subscription-based <i>[check if the library has a subscription]</i>
<u>Mendeley</u>	Free to use
<u>Zotero</u>	Free to use
<u>Cite This For Me</u>	Free to use



Librarians have checked and used these tools across sectors and they are routinely monitored for effectiveness. All information correct as of 2025.

Online Tools & AI usage

Ethical use of AI and online tools

Most academic institutions will mark you on your citations and referencing - you're being marked on your ability to cite and reference correctly so you must do them accurately.

It is unethical to generate inaccurate or incorrect citations and references.



Are the library staff allowed to help me?

We can help you with one or two examples, but we will not cite and complete your entire referencing list - this is academic misconduct (called collusion) and very unethical in a professional capacity for us to do this entirely for you.

Online Tools & AI usage



What to avoid

There are some online tools that 'generate' references for you, including asking AI tools that you want to use to help you - make sure you check that they are correct - sometimes they make mistakes, generate false information, and confuse styles! Again, academic work will be marked, and professionally you do not want mistakes in your published work!

Need help with Referencing?

You can check out our resources on referencing via our website's **Learning Zone**.

Or get in touch to request a **Referencing** session with one of our librarians via Teams or in-person appointment.



www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/libraries

Remember...



We're here to help you.

You can check our website for information, guides, or to get in touch - you could book a session with a librarian.



www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/libraries

References

Peck, J., & Coyle, M. (2012). *The student's guide to writing*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Rezaie, A., Pimentel, M., & Rao, S. S. (2016). How to Test and Treat Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth: an Evidence-Based Approach. *Current Gastroenterology Reports*, 18(2), 8.

University of Cumbria. (2019). *Writing at University*. Available from <https://my.cumbria.ac.uk/Student-Life/Learning/Skills-Cumbria/Academic-Writing/>

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