
Step 6: Referencing

Reasons for Referencing:

- To avoid plagiarism.
- To prove you have researched your topic and understand the existing scholarship.
- To give people the opportunity to find the sources you have used.
- To support your argument.
- To help you fully understand the topic you are writing about.

Paraphrasing:

When you use a source to back up your argument, it's a good idea to "paraphrase". To "paraphrase" means to put something that has already been said into your own words.



- "Paraphrasing" doesn't just mean change a few words in a sentence – it means summarise a point of view.
- You can "paraphrase" multiple people at once, if they are all saying the same thing.

Bibliographies – The list of what you have read:

At the end of your essay, you must include a full, alphabetised list of sources you have used to support your argument. This list is called either a "reference list" or a "bibliography". Check your course outline to see what terminology your coordinator would prefer you to use.

Formatting – How to layout the list of what you have read:

The following link provides useful information on how to format your bibliography and in-text citations, and what information to include for different source types. Another very handy source is the "Pocket Guide to APA Style," which is available from the University of Newcastle Library.

<http://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/apa-6th>

While automatic referencing systems like "Cite this for Me" are handy, they are often inaccurate. If you do choose to use this software, ensure that you still double check all of your references against the official referencing guide.