

Thesis writers' - Recipe

What to write?

- Topic selection

Ingredients:

- Sources

Shopping and market:

- Where and what to search?

Preparation:

- SuperSearch
- External sources, Source evaluation, Scholarly article

Serving:

- References, anti-plagiarism, reference manager softwares



What to write?

Topic selection

- Own topic (interest, personal issue, current theme)
- Topic offered by department/supervisor/consultant

- General hints
 - Time management
 - Check sources in advance
 - Check former theses in [Repository](#)
 - formal requirements
 - theses' bibliography can serve as a starting point
 - Critical reading, questions
 - Narrow your topic (focus on it)



Ingredients Sources

➤ Academic, scholarly literature

- Books
- Peer-reviewed articles
- Conference proceedings

➤ Grey literature

- non-commercially published, non peer-reviewed (e.g. working papers, company financials, theses, dissertations)

➤ Data, figures

- Governmental, international or commercial organizations, statistical databases
- Privately collected (surveys)
- [SPSS](#)



Where and what to search?

Library sources:

- Catalogue
 - Printed books (mainly) + e-links

- Journals and Electronic books

- Databases + other sources
 - Alphabetical lists, content information
 - Thematic categorization
 - Trials, case studies, atabanks

- SuperSearch
 - Monographs from the catalogue
 - 70% of databases
 - Scholarly sources



Preparation

SuperSearch (Live demonstration)

- Search query
- Keyword, synonyms
- Search techniques:
 - Basic: Boolean-operators (and, or, not), truncation (*), „Phrase Search”
- Fine tuning:
 - Filtering options, field search
 - Interlibrary loan (conditions!)
- 'Snowball'- method
- Expanding the search:
 - Widgets



External sources - Source evaluation

External sources:

- „To Google, or not to Google?”, Wikipedia
- [Google Scholar](#)

Source evaluation (CRAAP-test)

- **Currency**
 - Publication date? Updated? Are links functioning?
- **Relevance**
 - Does it answer to your topic? Level? To whom is it for?
- **Authority**
 - Who is author, publisher? Are affiliations given? Contact information available?
 - Type of website: commercial, organizational (.edu, .org, .gov, .com)
- **Accuracy**
 - Are there references? Peer-reviewed? Available in other sources? Free from emotions? Errors?
- **Purpose**
 - What is its purpose? To inform? To convince? To entertain? Objective?



Serving References

Why?

- To avoid plagiarism
- To support your findings, thoughts
- To provide information that others can locate the source themselves

When?

- Verbatim citation
- Paraphrasing

Where?

- In-text
- Citation list
- Footnote (!)

How?

- Common sense (indicate as many data as necessary to identify a document)
- Avoid cross-referencing, use the original source
- [References FAQ](#)
- Turnitin: [Turnitin Plagiarism Spectrum](#)



Serving Anti-plagiarism

- Widely used: [APA](#), Harvard – consult with you supervisor
- [Urkund/Ouriginal](#) – text similarity checker
 - Sources
 - own archive: previously uploaded materials by Urkund users
 - online sources
 - licensed content: academically published materials
- [Urkund/Ouriginal](#) at Corvinus
 - through Moodle
 - cca. one month before thesis submission deadline
 - one test uploading is guaranteed
 - set up by the university, uploaded by students
 - Urkund Student Handbook: Neptun Opening page
- [Analysis overview](#)
 - Shows percentage of texts found in other sources
 - Plagiarism, if: paraphrasing and citations together exceed 50% of the paper – even everything is cited correctly.



Serving Reference manager softwares (Live demonstration)

- [Zotero](#), Mendeley, Endnote Web (WoS)

- Use of Zotero
 - Download (software + Connector)
 - Structure
 - Downloading documents
 - Making bibliography
 - Cite-while-you-write plugin
 - Synchronization



Thanks for your attention!

Questions, comments:

krisztina.korosi@uni-corvinus.hu, erzsebet.lorinczi2@uni-corvinus.hu