Further readings and templates

# Chapter 6: General principles of assessment at university

## Citations and references from the web

There are citation and bibliographic styles for many different sources of information – though books and journal articles are the most frequently used. Referencing a journal article is not generally problematic, and most websites providing journal articles digitally will enable you to export references for formatting into EndNote very easily. Referencing more general information obtained online, however, does require you to be aware of a slightly different convention.

In Chapter 4, we mentioned a number of sources that could give you information relevant to your essay and citations to websites should be provided as well, and the most common are websites. Providing a citation to a website is relatively straightforward, but it would be useful to work through an example.

Let’s imagine that we have found a really relevant article called ‘How to study’ at the fictional website below:

www.iloveprovidingcitations.com/howtocite/websites/pre~244556/dir.htm

### Example 1

Let’s imagine that the information is authored by someone called Gary Waldron and there is a date on the website of July, 2003.

We provide the ***citation*** in exactly the same way as indicated above: **Waldron (2003)** or **(Waldron, 2003)** depending on how we are writing about what we have found (see above).

In the **bibliography**, we would write:

Waldron, G. (2003) “How to study”. Available online at: www.iloveprovidingcitations.com/howtocite/websites/pre~244556/dir.htm, (Accessed 12th July 2012)

### Example 2

However, it is more common for websites to be anonymous, although there may still be a date at the bottom or top of the page. In this case, we include the ‘stem’ of the website in the **citation**, and add the date as given on the website:

(www.iloveprovidingcitations.com, 2003)

In the **bibliography**, we would write:

Iloveprovidingcitations.com (2003) “How to study”. Available online at: www.iloveprovidingcitations.com/howtocite/websites/pre~244556/dir.htm, (Accessed 12th July 2012)

### Example 3

There are occasions where the website has no date, in which case we use the date that we accessed the website. In this case, we include the ‘stem’ of the website in the **citation**, and add the date as given on the website:

(www.iloveprovidingcitations.com, 2012)

In the **bibliography**, we would write:

Iloveprovidingcitations.com (2012) “How to study”. Available online at: www.iloveprovidingcitations.com/howtocite/websites/pre~244556/dir.htm, (Accessed 12th July 2012)