

FOCUS Series

Information research and academic skills workshops for research students

Focus Series is a set of workshops especially designed for Higher Degree Research students in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences. Its aim is to assist with the development of advanced research skills, including researching and writing Literature Reviews, using EndNote, and managing research data. Participants can attend the entire series or select individual workshops, to suit their individual requirements. The series will be run at the Hargrave-Andrew Library at Clayton campus.

To take part in the workshops, please book via the Library Booking System, using the search term 'focus series': <http://lib.monash.edu.au/classes/>

For further information, please contact Fiona Russell (Fiona.Russell@lib.monash.edu.au) or Katrina Tepper (Katrina.Tepper@lib.monash.edu.au).

Searching the medical literature	Develop comprehensive search strategies to uncover relevant literature for your project. Discover important resources and powerful search features, including results management and current awareness tools. Learn how to find literature using cited references.
Monday 19th April, 1-2.30pm	
Writing Literature Reviews	Analysis, critical evaluation, review matrix, synthesis, and maintaining your voice as a writer—these will be the main themes in a class aimed to simplify and improve your literature writing process.
Monday 19th April, 2.45-4.15pm	
Introduction to EndNote X3	Learn how to use this software to manage your references. This hands-on session will cover creation of an Endnote library of references, importing database records into an Endnote library and applying Endnote styles to a bibliography.
Tuesday 27th April, 1-2.30pm	
Writing abstracts	The abstract is usually the first contact a reader has with your work. It will help people to decide whether to read your thesis or article, or to attend your conference paper (or, in the case of conference abstract reviewers, whether to accept your paper). In this workshop we will look at the structure of abstracts and approaches to writing them through activities using authentic examples.
Tuesday 27th April, 1-2.30pm	
Reflective writing	Hands-on workshop on the fundamentals of reflective writing. Bring a pen, an open mind, and a willingness to share your writing.
Tuesday 27th April, 2.45-3.45pm	
Using mind maps to improve writing	Mind maps, whether hand-drawn or created using mind mapping software, are a powerful tool for generating thoughts and logically organizing large amounts of material. In this workshop we will explore the possibilities of mind mapping by using Free Mind software.
Monday 3rd May, 2-3pm	
Introduction to managing your research data	Gain an overview of data management for responsible research. Learn about support available, the importance of labelling data and managing information ethics, and resources such as data storage facilities. Begin to explore management options for your own project.
Monday 3rd May, 3.15-4.15pm	