

# Impact

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**Learn Library Lingo**  
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# Sprucing up Silwood Library

As those of you based at Silwood Park will know there has been a lot of activity on the campus over the last few months. The old CABI Building is being completely refurbished and computer rooms, teaching classrooms and social areas are being added ready for the space to be reborn as the Hamilton Building.

As a result the library was packed into crates and moved out of the CABI Building in June. Luckily library staff avoided spending the summer camped out in a rusty Portakabin and instead were allocated two beautiful rooms in Silwood's Manor House as temporary accommodation. With its decorative mouldings, marble fireplaces, chandelier and wisteria-framed view of the Silwood lawns, there could definitely be worse places to squat while the new library is fitted out.



To the Manor born – not bad for temporary accommodation.



The refurbishment work is now entering its final weeks and plans are being made to leave the Manor House and move to the new space on the first floor of the Hamilton Building. Although the overall library space will be smaller than before there will still be plenty of study space, an open access book and journal collection and, most importantly, the library will once again be located in the heart of a busy academic community. If all goes according to plan the library will return to its new home in December ready to open for the new term in January 2009.



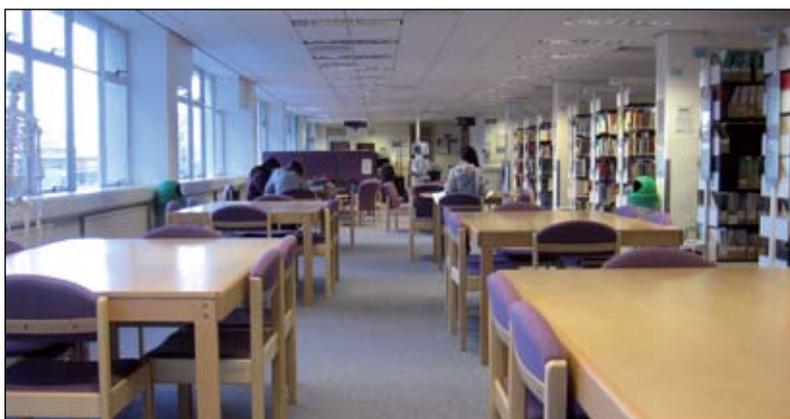
From left to right: Original features; extensive grounds; and a grand entrance.



From left to right: The Orangerie; View from the library; and The Japanese Garden.

## All Change at Charing Cross

Following the addition of the new air conditioning system and the journal move in spring 2008, changes at the Charing Cross Campus Library continue.



The space gained by the journal move has enabled us to create new, more flexible learning spaces and to better 'zone' the library to meet the ever changing needs of our wide user base.



Although we are still waiting for a few, final, pieces of furniture it is clear from the way in which users have settled into the new space that the changes are an improvement. We hope this continues in the New Year when the works will be finally completed.



To meet these challenges lots of new furniture has been purchased adding 40 new study spaces in the library, including six individual study carrels and six new PCs.



# What's Hot in the Digital Library?

## New e-book and e-journal collections

The Library has enhanced its Digital Library collection by investing in access to more electronic books and extending the online holdings of large numbers of its e-journal titles, through the purchase of four major backfiles in the subject areas of business, engineering and medicine. These new titles and volumes can be accessed wherever you are and at whatever time you like.

### NEW E-BOOK COLLECTIONS

#### Thieme Electronic Book library

##### Thieme ElectronicBook Library

This online reference library of 42 Thieme medical and scientific books includes the Flexibook Atlases and Textbooks Series, plus the review and reference collection. Eight fully illustrated colour atlases can be accessed alongside nine pocket atlases, including the recently added 5th edition of the Pocket Atlas of Human Anatomy by Heinz Feneis and Wolfgang Dauber.

#### Knovel Library – Chemistry & Chemical Engineering collection

The Chemistry & Chemical Engineering subject area of the Knovel Library provides access to over 290 book titles. Browse the 'My Subscription' link for an expandable list with descriptions.



This collection includes the popular Access Perry's titles:

- *Chemical Properties Handbook*, 1999 edition by Carl L. Yaws.
- *Lange's Handbook of Chemistry*, 16th edition 2005 by James G. Speight.
- *Perry's Chemical Engineers' Handbook*, 7th edition 1997 edited by Robert H. Perry and Don W. Green.

All three come with interactive graphs and tables (productivity tools) to analyze the results.

#### Elsevier Finance backfile eBooks collection

Available via ScienceDirect, this collection provides access to 78 finance titles that were all published between 1995 and 2006, and includes the following key titles:

- *Hedge Fund Investment Management* by Izzy Nelken, 2006 ed.
- *IPOs and Equity Offerings* by Ross Geddes, 2005 ed.
- *Advanced Derivatives Pricing and Risk Management* by Claudio Albanese and Giuseppe Campolieti, 2006 ed.
- *Funds of Hedge Funds* and *Initial Public Offerings* both by Greg N. Gregoriou, 2006 eds.
- *Risk Management* by Michael Ong, 2006 ed.

### NEW E-JOURNAL BACKFILE COLLECTIONS

All offer immediate access to all titles and all years from the first issue onwards, expanding access to historical content some of which has been out of print for many years.

#### Elsevier Economics, Econometrics and Finance Backfile Package

This backfiles collection on ScienceDirect comprises 71 titles from volume 1, issue 1 until 1994. The oldest title dates back to 1967. Titles included which have been suggested by members of Imperial for pre-1995 access are:

- *Insurance: Mathematics & Economics*
- *Journal of Econometrics*
- *Journal of Financial Economics*



#### Elsevier Engineering & Technology Backfile Package

A larger ScienceDirect backfiles collection consisting of 164 titles with the oldest dating back to 1826. Library users now have

instant access to seminal and highly cited papers from earlier volumes.

- *Cement and Concrete Research*
- *Engineering Geology*
- *International Journal of Multiphase Flow*
- *International Journal of Solids and Structures*
- *Ocean Engineering*
- *Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering*
- *Soil Technology*

### Wiley-Blackwell General Medicine Backfile Package

This Wiley InterScience Backfile Collection comprises a broad portfolio of medical titles, including leading journal titles across multiple disciplines and subspecialties such as hepatology, immunology, interventional cardiology, magnetic resonance imaging, rheumatology, surgery, and virology. Full coverage dates back to inaugural issues of suggested titles such as *British Journal of Surgery* 1914-1997 and *Microsurgery* 1979-1995.



### Wiley-Blackwell Polymer Backfile Package

The Wiley InterScience Polymer Backfile Collection is the largest collection of high quality polymer science backfile articles available from a single publisher. Seven of the journals in the collection are among the top 20 polymer science journals in ISI's 2001 *Journal Citation Reports* (4 among the top 10). This collection offers access to the earliest journals unique to the area of polymer science (*Journal of Polymer Science, Macromolecular Chemistry and Physics*) and includes full coverage back to Volume 1, Issue 1 of seminal titles such as the *Journal of Applied Polymer Science* (1959-1995).

## Freshers' Fair: October 2008



The Library gave 3,500 goodie bags away to lucky Freshers this year.

# Head for the Haldane!

Since 1957 the Haldane Collection has provided Imperial's hard working students and staff with a well earned break from their course work and research. If you're weary of statistics, nuclear physics or biochemistry then head for the Haldane. You'll find a large collection of fiction, non-fiction, music scores, CDs, DVDs, maps, biographies, travel guides and much more. The Haldane Collection is located in the Central Library. Books and music scores can be found on level 5, CDs and DVDs on level 2. And if you've ever wondered what Imperial Collegians like to read, watch and listen to, then we've compiled the following top ten lists from issue figures over a number of years. So read on for a few surprises....

## Your top ten fiction titles

### 1. *Lady Oracle* – Margaret Atwood

The top spot in our top fiction titles goes to the quirky and original Atwood. *Lady Oracle* tells of the life of Joan Foster, Joan struggles with her weight and her cold, disapproving mother. Fate lends a hand, and Joan begins a journey of reinvention and self-discovery. We are taken along as Joan flits from Canada to England and on to Italy. From marriages to a Polish count and a left-wing revolutionary, all related with Atwood's sharp humour and inimitable style.

### 2. *The Alchemist* – Paulo Coelho

A life-affirming fable with messages of following your heart and being true to your destiny. Told through the journeys of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd.

### 3. *Pnin* – Vladimir Nabokov

From the author of *Lolita* – Russian emigrant Professor Timofey Pnin finds himself ensconced on a leafy College campus in 1950s America. Be prepared for many a chuckle as you follow Pnin's attempts to make sense of accents and gadgets in the new world he finds himself in.

### 4. *Life of Pi* – Yann Martel

Hugely popular, and exotically original. *The Life of Pi* chronicles the plight of Pi Patel, shipwrecked and set adrift with a menagerie of zoo animals for company.

### 5. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* – J K Rowling

Third in the record-breaking series. Boy wizard Harry finds himself contending with both the dreaded soul destroying Dementors and the escaped prisoner Sirius Black – the dark hearted criminal implicated in the deaths of Harry's parents.

### 6. *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* – Philip K. Dick

Sci-fi maestro Philip K. Dick presents a dystopian future in this novel which inspired the film *Bladerunner*. Rick Deckard is a bounty hunter, tasked with the duty to hunt down and terminate a group of renegade androids.

### 7. *The Eyre Affair* – Jasper Fforde

In at number 7 appears the first title by the only author to have the distinction of appearing twice in our list. Fforde weaves a strange and unique alternate reality, in his 1985 the Crimean War never ended and a dastardly criminal is abducting and holding to ransom the minor characters from Dickens' famous novels.

### 8. *Labyrinths* – Jorge Luis Borges

A collection of translated stories and essays penned by the avant-garde Argentine scribe. Though not necessarily an easy read, you will be rewarded if you persevere with this selection of metaphysical and philosophical oddities.

### 9. *Atlantis Found* – Clive Cussler

Buckle your seat-belt and get set for a rip-roaring adventure yarn. Forget Bond and Bourne, Dirk Pitt is your man as he battles a nefarious secret society with a dark agenda and uncovers the mysteries of the lost continent of Atlantis.

### 10. *Lost In a Good Book* – Jasper Fforde

Fforde's second novel continues the adventures of literary detective extraordinaire Thursday Next. Be prepared for the weird and unusual as Thursday continues her crusade in defence of the written word.





# Your top ten DVDs

## 1. *The Deer Hunter*

A harrowing and illuminating study of the aftermath of war and its effect on those involved. *The Deer Hunter* predates both *Platoon* and *Apocalypse Now* in its take on the Vietnam War, told through the viewpoints of three friends. This epic and acclaimed film earned Oscar nominations for Meryl Streep and Robert De Niro, and a deserved win as Best Supporting Actor for Christopher Walken and his nuanced portrayal of Niko. Bleak but brilliant.

## 2. *The Shawshank Redemption*

Based on a Stephen King novella, but without a vampire or ghoulie in sight, this is the tale of Andy DuFresne and his incarceration at Shawshank Prison. The film does not focus on the usual staples of prison life as portrayed on screen – brutality, crime, etc., but rather illuminates a touching and deep friendship, and the plight of a man who is adamant of his innocence in the face of overwhelming odds.

## 3. *Se7en*

A dark and twisting story of murder and mayhem, *Se7en* centres on the hunt for a serial killer who is killing his victims and displaying the bodies with reference to the seven deadly sins of gluttony, lust, etc. Brad Pitt and Morgan Freeman are the detectives on the chase for the madman, with Kevin Spacey and Gwyneth Paltrow in support.

## 4. *Lawrence of Arabia*

Another war epic battles through to our Top 10. This time we have the dramatisation of the life of British soldier T.E. Lawrence, and his adventures in Arabia during WWI. This is a great epic in sweeping cinematic style and has influenced many film makers since its debut on the silver screen. Steven Spielberg lists *Lawrence of Arabia* as his favourite film of all time, and the movie that encouraged him to get into film making. So saddle up your camel, pack your sunscreen and join Lawrence on his journey.

## 5. *Citizen Kane*

Consistently ranked highly in any list of the top films of all time, *Citizen Kane* is the story of newspaper magnate Charles Foster Kane and his rise to fame and fortune. We follow reporter Jerry Thompson, who is given the task of investigating both Kane's death, and the meaning of his enigmatic final word 'Rosebud'. Kane's story is shown in flashback, as Thompson's investigations lead him to interview various key figures in Kane's life. *Citizen Kane* has been noted for the innovative directing style of Orson Welles. This included his use of many new and non-traditional techniques such as deep-focus cinematography, and the use of screen make-up to age the cast as the story progresses.

## 6. *Dr Strangelove*

Esteemed director Stanley Kubrick directs this critically lauded black comedy. Unlikely as it may seem, the comedy in this film stems from the possibility of nuclear annihilation. Kubrick uses the Cold War as a foil as he expertly satirises the posturing and bullying that characterised this period of history.

## 7. *The Italian Job*

Referring to the Michael Caine original rather than 'Marky' Mark Wahlberg's recent 'remake'. This Brit caper sees Caine taking the role of ladies man and expert thief Charlie, tangled up in a plot to raid gold bullion in Turin. Look out for the iconic Mini Cooper, as these beloved cars rocket around the streets in some hair-raising chase scenes.

## 8. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

The exoticism of the Orient is brought to the screen in breath-taking style in this martial arts showpiece. The action is flavoured with a fantastical tinge, as characters skip from treetop to treetop and defy gravity by running up walls. Underneath all the flying fists and flashing blades lies a deftly woven plot of romance and betrayal, powered along by the desperate struggle over the fabled sword Green Destiny.

## 9. *Hannah and Her Sisters*

Woody Allen's finest hour chronicles the torrid relationship between Hannah and her two sisters Lee and Holly in the bustling metropolis of New York City.

## 10. *Breathless*

Richard Gere smoulders as a bad boy drifter in this romantic crime caper. A remake of the French original, *Breathless* sees French exchange student Monica caught up with the charismatic but reckless Jesse as he runs from the law.



# Your top ten CDs

## 1. *Falling Into You* – Celine Dion

A result that is likely to divide opinions. Unlike the Titanic, to whose film adaptation she lent her most famous song, Celine has dodged the icebergs and sailed serenely to the top of our CD list. While *My Heart Will Go On* does not feature on this album, and some might argue that Celine does indeed ‘go on’ a bit too much with her signature brand of vocal gymnastics, there is no denying the popularity that has seen her snatch multiple Grammy awards and the number one spot on album sales charts across the globe.



## 2. *Urban Hymns* – The Verve

Snapping at Celine’s shapely ankles come the recently reunited The Verve with their 1997 offering, *Urban Hymns*. Hailing from Wigan, these local lads had worldwide hits with *Bittersweet Symphony* and *Sonnet*. If you are a fan, look out for their recent album *Forth*, which is on order for the Haldane CD collection.

## 3. *Oxygene* – Jean Michel Jarre

Straight out of left-field we have a pioneering example of instrumental electronica from 1976, powered by sweeping synthesised arrays of musical innovation. This talented son of a WWII French Resistance fighter and a Hollywood music composer brought synthesised electronica to the world’s attention. This psychedelic blend could only have come direct from the decade of LSD, free love and dodgy fashion choices.



## 4. *Messiah* – George Frideric Handel

The first classical music title in our list holds a commanding spot at number 4. This piece tells the story of the life of Jesus and the significant events that occurred throughout his life story. It has become a popular composition to be heard at various Christian celebrations. Handel himself was a German born composer, who emigrated to England and eventually became a British subject. He was buried at Westminster Abbey.

## 5. *Never Mind the B\*\*\*\*s here’s the Sex Pistols* – The Sex Pistols

The first and only album from seminal punk legends The Sex Pistols. Released in 1977, the album stirred controversy with its use of what was considered by many at the time to be an obscenity in its title. The ruckus was further fuelled by songs such as *God Save the Queen* and *Anarchy in the UK*, which were criticised by many as attacks on the monarchy and societal values. Regardless, this album and the band have been hailed by critics as a strong influence on the development of punk music and culture.



## 6. *So Far So Good* – Bryan Adams

Still soldiering on since his first album release in 1980, Bryan Adams and his raspy voice have been on the scene for a while. You may remember him from his mega hit *Everything I Do* from the Robin Hood movie soundtrack. These days you’re as likely to be dodging Bryan’s telephoto lens – thanks to his new found fame as a photographer, including stints for *British Vogue*!

## 7. *Travelling Without Moving* – Jamiroquai

Grammy award winning, platinum selling album from these acid/soul/jazz/dance funk exponents. Jamiroquai have fashioned their own highly individualistic variety of musicianship. Carrying the torch for the spirit of disco and good times into the new century, Jamiroquai remain a perennial dance floor favourite.



## 8. *Symphonies, no.5, op.67, C minor* – Ludwig van Beethoven

The next of our classical entries sees Beethoven mark his spot with the *5th Symphony*. Not a bad result for a piece of music that is now over 200 years old, how’s that for remaining relevant! This symphony is one of the most famous in existence and will be instantly recognisable to many listeners. Take a listen and be transported by this work from one of the great Masters.

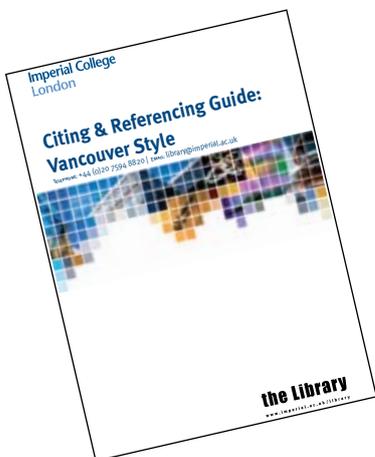
## 9. *The Beatles 1967-1970* – The Beatles

This compilation, often called ‘The Blue Album’, pulls together an eclectic range of the Fab Four’s hits from 1967 through 1970. You’ll find staples such as *Penny Lane* and *Lucy in the sky with diamonds*, alongside more obscure tunes from their catalogue.

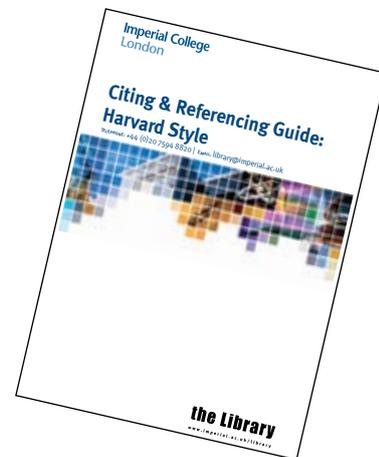


## 10. *The Best of R.E.M.* – R.E.M

Led by talented Michael Stipe, R.E.M. have stamped their names in the annals on pop history. This Best Of compilation is rammed with quality tunes. R.E.M possess that rare ability to fashion songs for every mood. Whether the melancholy strains of *Everybody Hurts* or the upbeat *Stand*, everyone should find something to enjoy.



# Citing & referencing? Help is at hand!



**You know the feeling. You've just spent hours writing a great essay and now you've finally finished and want to relax and forget about it. But wait! It's not over yet – you still need to write up that long list of references and check the in-text citations. The relaxation will have to wait.**

No one really enjoys writing references but they are vital to the scholarly process and help you avoid the plagiarism trap. Many courses deduct marks for incorrect or sloppy referencing; so it's worth getting it right. The library is here to help make referencing easier from the research to the writing up.

**We provide:**    • Guides            • Software            • Training            • Advice

## Guides

The two referencing styles generally used in College are Harvard and Vancouver. Before you write up any piece of work you should check with your lecturer to find out which style they prefer. Some departments produce their own referencing guidelines and you should follow these if provided. The handbooks you received at the start of your course might have this information, so dig them out, or check with your course administrator.

The Library has a guide to both Harvard and Vancouver available from the Learning and Support section of our website. Our guide contains lots of examples of how to reference different types of information, how to construct your reference list, and how to cite in the text.

## Software

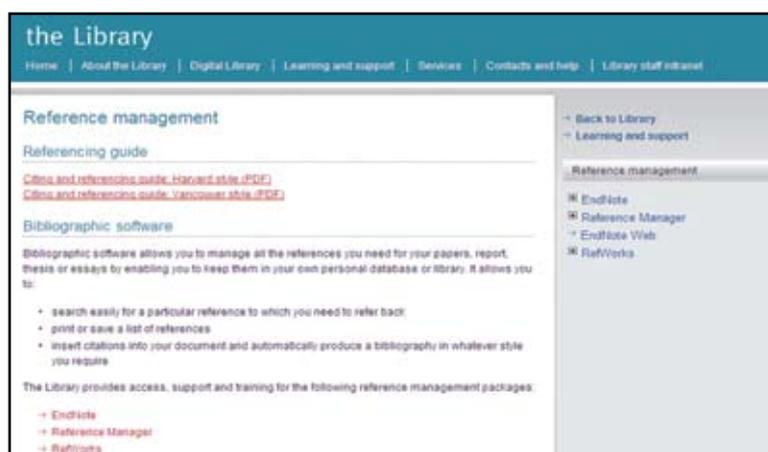
Reference management software (also called bibliographic software) is designed to store and manage all your references in your own personal database or 'library'. You can save references as you conduct your research, often exporting information directly from online databases, e-journals, and even search engines such as Google Scholar.

You can also:

- search for a particular reference in your reference library
- print or save a list of references
- insert citations into your document and automatically produce a bibliography in Harvard, Vancouver or whatever style you require

The Library provides training and support for three different reference management software packages:

- EndNote
- Reference Manager
- RefWorks



To find out which package is right for you go to the Learning and Support section of the library website and select 'Reference Management'.

## Training

The Library runs regular half-day training workshops on EndNote and Reference Manager. RefWorks training is included in the Library's lunchtime workshops programme which runs about twice per term.

If you're an undergraduate you may also receive training and instruction from library staff on referencing as part of your programme of study. Our online training programmes (OLIVIA, PILS and PILOT) also offer lots of information and advice on referencing and can be accessed via Blackboard. Full details of all the training we offer, including timetables and booking forms, can be found on our website.

## Advice

If you have any questions about referencing get in touch with your liaison librarian or campus library manager for help and advice. Their contact details can be found on our website.

# Library Lingo:

## A quick guide to library jargon

It may seem that library staff speak a different language when it comes to things like indexes, Boolean operators, classmarks, metadata, and OPACs. So here's some of the more commonly used library jargon explained.

**ABSTRACT:** a brief summary which outlines the main idea or content of a journal article, book, or dissertation. These are useful when deciding on the potential use of an item before reading.

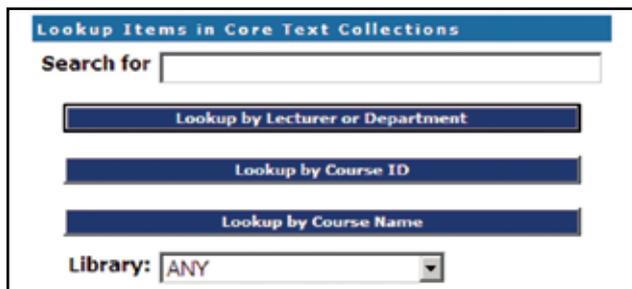
**BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE:** a searchable resource which lists the bibliographic details of items such as journal articles and conference papers. They confirm that an item exists on a particular subject and often provide an abstract and sometimes a link to the full text where subscriptions exist. *Web of Knowledge* is one such resource.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** a list providing details of books, journals and websites. These are often listed at the end of books; but also are used at the end of assignments as a list of all works consulted but not necessarily cited (see also: REFERENCE LIST).

**BOOLEAN OPERATORS:** based on the logic of mathematician George Boole, the Boolean operators AND, OR and NOT can be used in constructing searches in databases and online search engines:

- AND = retrieves items containing both search terms, e.g. water AND aquatic
- OR = retrieves items containing one or other or both of the search terms, e.g. water OR aquatic
- NOT = retrieves items containing the first search term but not the second, e.g. water NOT aquatic

**CLASSMARK:** the number which appears on the spine of a library book and by which it is located on the shelves. It can also be known as the SPINE NUMBER or the CALL NUMBER.



Lookup Items in Core Text Collections

Search for

Lookup by Lecturer or Department

Lookup by Course ID

Lookup by Course Name

Library: ANY

**CORE TEXT:** items that have been identified as core reading or are in heavy demand are added to the Core Text Collection. This contains books and photocopies of some journal articles. Items in this collection are on an overnight/restricted loan period.

**DOI (Digital Object Identifier):** is a unique number allocated to a digital object, for example, a journal article, providing a more stable link than a URL that may change over time.

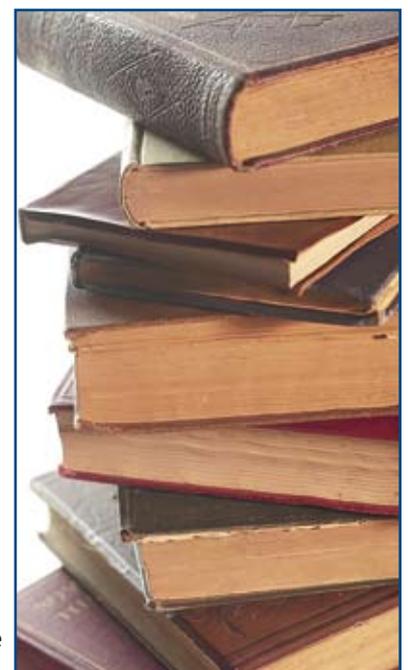
**EDITION:** all copies of a work, e.g. a book, that are published and printed at the same time and from the same plates. Revised or subsequent editions, e.g. 2nd edition, etc, usually implies that changes have been made to the text or that new material has been added.

**HELP DESK:** located in the Central Library on the ground floor, this is the desk where you can ask for more in-depth help on locating items, inter-library loans, and accessing material from the store.

**INTER-LIBRARY LOAN (ILL):** is a library service which allows the request of material not held at that library to be provided from another library. To find out more about this service, and the inter-campus requests service, click on the Inter-Library Loans link from within the Library Catalogue.

**ISBN (International Standard Book Number) & ISSN (International Standard Serial Number):** these are international numeric codes assigned to a specific edition of a book and a specific journal or serial title respectively.

**ISSUE DESK:** this is the desk where you can speak to library staff and where you can issue, return and renew items. It is also the place where you can pick up items you have placed a hold on.

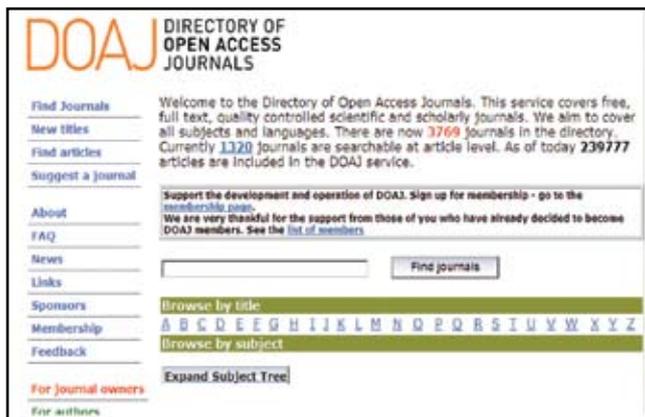


**JOURNAL:** is the name used for academic and scholarly publications, they can also be referred to as PERIODICALS as they are published periodically, or SERIALS as they form a series of publications. These can come in both printed and electronic formats, and both usually use volume and issue numbers.

**KEY WORDS:** also known as SEARCH TERMS these are the words you enter to represent the subject you are searching for either in the Library catalogue, a bibliographic database, or in an online search engine.

**LIBRARY CATALOGUE:** this can sometimes be referred to as an OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue). This contains details and location information of all items held by the library and links to electronic resources subscribed to by the library. As well as the basic search, there is an complex search option which allows you to search by various options including format, e.g. thesis. You can also place holds, renew your books and search for Core Texts.

**METADATA:** is often described as 'data about data'. It is information, such as records on the Library catalogue, that describe the format, location, author, title, and sometimes content of an item.



**OPEN ACCESS:** this is digital information that is made available at no cost to the reader for educational reasons. This can be achieved by the placement of articles into academic repositories, such as *Spiral* (the Imperial digital repository) or by publishing in an open access journal; a list of these can be searched online through the *Directory of Open Access Journals*: [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)

**PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL:** is the term used to describe academic journals where the articles have been read by other academics and scholars in the field and judged to be of a high quality and therefore approved for publication.

**PLAGIARISM:** is essentially passing off someone else's work as if it were your own by giving no reference to your source/s.

The Library provides training for students on how to avoid plagiarism and produces a citing and referencing guide to help students reference material correctly in their assignments. Pop into any Imperial library to pick up your free copy.

**REFERENCE LIST:** a list providing details of books, journals and websites. These are used at the end of assignments as a list of all works actually cited (see also: BIBLIOGRAPHY).

**REPOSITORY:** an online deposit of research material of the institution, including material such as journal articles and book chapters. The digital repository of Imperial is called *Spiral*.

**SCONUL Access Scheme for staff and research post-graduates & SCONUL VACATION ACCESS SCHEME:** as a member of SCONUL (Society of College, National and University Libraries) staff and students may have access to certain other university libraries. To find out more see the Services area of the Library website and look under the Using other libraries section.



**SUBJECT GATEWAYS:** gather together links to subject specific websites. Most are constructed to help staff and students locate good quality resources on the web. One of the major examples of a subject gateway is *Intute* – this is freely available on the internet or via the library website.

**TOC (table of contents):** the list of contents of a publication.

**TRUNCATION:** using the shortened version of a search term will retrieve the various forms of a word, e.g. fish\* will retrieve *fishing*, *fisher*, *fishes*, *fisherman*, etc. Always check the help section of a database for information about how the truncation works, not all may use the asterix.

**WILDCARD:** so that you retrieve all the results available to you whether using UK or American English spellings, you can insert \$, or \* to allow for variant spellings, e.g. colo\$. Always check the help section of a database for information about how the wildcard option works, not all may use the \$ or \*.



# Letters to Lionel

Share your library and information problems with Lionel, our Agony Uncle. If you're perplexed by passwords, confused by the catalogue or unhinged by information overload, Lionel is here to help.



Dear Lionel,

I am a student at Imperial and I use the library a lot. However, it's not always convenient for me to come onto campus and so I was wondering if can I join or use other libraries?

*You could join a public library, either your local one near where you live, or as a student you could join the library near your campus. For the South Kensington campus you have a choice – Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea or City of Westminster libraries (Imperial is in two boroughs!). To find out about public libraries and which is your nearest see London Libraries website, your gateway to libraries in London: [www.londonlibraries.org](http://www.londonlibraries.org)*

*The British Library is a major reference library located in St Pancras and you may find that you need to use its collections for research. Full details of how to apply for a reader pass are available on their website: [www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk). There are many other academic libraries in London which you could use and details of their collections and access arrangements are made available by the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries: [www.inform25.ac.uk](http://www.inform25.ac.uk). Best of all – ask your librarian for advice!*

Dear Lionel,

Does the library have any fiction books I can borrow?

*Yes we do! At the Central Library you'll find the Haldane Collection which contains fiction, non-fiction, music scores, CDs and DVDs. If we don't have any works by your favourite author or band then why not use the online book suggestion form and tell us what you would like.*

*The form is on the 'Contacts and Help' page of the Library website. If you want to see what your fellow students are watching and listening to then turn to page 6.*

Dear Lionel,

I'm a third year student and need to start doing research for my final year project. I haven't used databases very much, in the past I've mostly just used books and certain journals. I've had a look at the A-Z list of databases on the Library website and there are thousands of them! How do I know which ones will be useful for my research?

*We are fortunate here at Imperial College Library to be able to provide our users with such a wide range of online resources. But the number of options available can sometimes be overwhelming, especially if you're new to this type of research. This is where your liaison librarian can help. They have selected some of the top resources for each subject area and put these lists onto the Library website. Just click on the 'Digital Library' tab, and select 'Database and e-resource subject guides' from the side navigation bar. Then choose the subject area that's relevant to you. All the guides are updated regularly and can be printed as well. The Library portal, MetaLib, will also be useful as you can view resources by subject area and save a list of your favourite databases to use again later.*

Can Lionel help you? Send your question or problem to: [libnews@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:libnews@imperial.ac.uk)

## Our Seats – Your Say

Last term we completed a study spaces survey and over 600 of you replied. We hope to present our initial analysis at the first Open Library Forum.

### The Library Forum

16 January 2009 / 10.00 – 12.00 / Council Room,  
170 Queens Gate, South Kensington Campus

The Library Forum is open for anyone to attend. You will have an opportunity to raise issues you have with any aspect of your library service, and we'll be presenting some of our ideas and plans.

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**the Library**  
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