



## Referencing the Essay

**Referencing** is a system that allows you to **acknowledge the contributions and work of others in your writing** by citing your sources. A feature of academic writing is that it contains references to the words, information and ideas of others.

All academic essays **MUST** contain references. Referencing guards against **plagiarism**, a serious academic offence. **Plagiarism** is copying someone else's words or ideas and presenting them as your own.



See [Plagiarism and academic integrity](#)

**Make sure you are familiar with the referencing style your faculty or school requires.** Most have guides specifying the system they prefer. Often Schools/Faculties don't mind which system you use as long as it is **consistent**. If this is the case, use the system you are most comfortable with.



See The Learning Centre guides to [various citation styles](#)

## Reference lists

Remember to list all the books and articles you use for the essay in a Reference List. This is a list of all works cited in your essay, and should be the final page.

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**Next step:** [Editing your essay](#)

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