Research it!

Views and Habits of Our Researchers

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James in context
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Five schools:
- Biology and Chemistry
- Electronic Engineering and Computer Sciences
- Engineering and Material Sciences
- Physics and Astronomy
- Mathematics
The Teaching and Learning Support Team

- We have one FT Liaison Librarian for each of the three Faculties: Medicine and Dentistry, Humanities and Social Sciences and Science and Engineering.
- The Faculty Liaison Librarians are each supported by a FT Information Assistant Post.
- Martin Beeson, Teaching and Learning Support Manager, heads up the team.

These seven FT posts support the information literacy needs of over 23,000 students and 4,000 staff and researchers.
2011: Launch of the Researcher Development Framework at QMUL

“Vitae is a non-profit programme who aim to strengthen members' institutional provision for the professional development of their researchers.” (From: https://www.vitae.ac.uk/)
The RDF courses on QMplus

RDF: INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS FOR RESEARCHERS

This module is part of the 'Researcher Development Framework' series of modules and workshops. As a guest, follow the module title link and then select 'login as guest' on the login page. Please note:

RDF: PRINCIPLES OF OPEN ACCESS AND OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

This module is part of the 'Researcher Development Framework' series of modules and workshops. As a guest, follow the module title link and then select 'login as guest' on the login page. Please note:

RDF: RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

It is an Open Access module: anyone from anywhere in the world can access it as a guest; however, the recommended browser for viewing this module is Internet Explorer.
In 2015, Martin Beeson, created new training material within Humanities and Social Sciences which does not only focus on PHD students’ information retrieval processes but on a wider context and the broader skill sets students need to have to be successful researchers.
Information Skills for Researchers

- Keeping up to date with the latest research
- Developing your search techniques
- Carrying out a literature search
- Accessing full-text content
- Carrying out a literature review
- Evaluating information
- Managing information
Library Discovery Tool

Google Scholar

Subject Databases

Google

Where to look?
I started in the Teaching and Learning Support Team June, 2015.

Martin presented me with his new creation about 6 month later. I quickly gave it a Science and Engineering twist, but I needed to find an audience...
We had run Reference Management software trainings before through our Centre for Academic and Professional Development.
Research it!
Information Research Skills for Early Career Researchers

www.library.qmul.ac.uk
• In the last two years I have met around 120 PHD students.
• I only had to cancel once, but it does mean that I have to be quite flexible in how I teach some of the sessions...

How did it go?
Discussions
What other sources do you use?
Google Scholar is by far the most popular database/search engine amongst our students. Some of them even question why they should use anything else.
BUT they are also using all this:
What should/could the library help you with?
What do our students want from the Library?

- **ACCESS TO RESOURCES**
- **STUDY SPACES**
- **TRAINING / INSTRUCTION**
- **HELP WITH REFERENCING**
- **WRITING SKILLS DISCUSSION GROUPS**
Add an introduction to specialist resources that are more specific to our field of research.

Include more content.

Include tips/criteria for selecting truly relevant sources.

Include some practical exercises on how to look for information.

Really well organised and amazing use of the new technologies for the course!!

Important skills for researchers.

Introducing a lot of tools that we can use during research.

All material covered were interesting and helpful. Great presentation!
Audience confidence

Before

Very Unconfident

Very Confident

After

AFTER
Developments
Engagement over the years
Future?
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https://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=4440