

RESEARCHING THE BACKGROUND LITERATURE

Biological literature is found in books and journals. Books are located through the computerized “card catalog.” Journal articles are located through abstracts and indexes: the main ones for biological literature being: Biological Abstracts, Index Medicus, and Science Citation Index. Many of scientific databases are accessed through the UNCC Atkins library computer services.

A major aspect of scientific research is “learning what others know about a chosen topic”. That involves a planned, concerted effort and a considerable effort on the part of the researcher. The library staff is always ready and willing to assist with this process.

For each reference eventually used in the writing process, the following is necessary: complete, accurate **CITATION INFORMATION** and **USEFUL NOTES**. This information should be recorded **ONE REFERENCE PER PAGE** on notebook [electronic or paper] or within a reference manager software (Endnote). The major reason for this process is to record enough information so the eventual writing can be done from these notes. This process virtually assures *plagiarism* will be avoided.

Complete, accurate citations are collected with the following information: Author(s), Year of publication, Title, and Source.

Examples are as follows:

Book: Smith, J. W. and E. C. Jones. 1990. The Study of Rats. The Rat Publishing Company. Ratville, N.C.

Book, part of: Dréau D., Lyte M., Fowler N., Morton D., Sonnenfeld G., 1997. Social conflict stress, immune responses and resistance to infection. In E. Faist Ed. “*The Immune Consequences of Trauma Shock and Sepsis*”. Monduzzi Editore, Bologna, Italy. p. 119-122.

Journal: Dréau D., Foster M., Hogg M., Swiggett J., Holder W.D., White R.L, 2001. Angiogenic and immune parameters during Interferon-alpha 2b adjuvant treatment in melanoma patients. *Oncol. Res*, 12:241-251

Encyclopedia: Encyclopedia Britannica. 1990. Rats, pp. 87-89. Encyclopedia Publishing Co. New York, New York.

From Biological Abstracts, or other such secondary source:

- Carbonell AM, Matthews BD, Dréau D, Foster M, Austin CE, Kercher KW, Sing RF, Heniford BT, 2004. The susceptibility to infection of prosthetic biomaterials. Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons, Denver, CO, March 31-April 3, 2004.
- Smith, J. W. and E. C. Jones. 1990. The study of rats. *J. Mammalogy* 22: 10-15 (Bio. Abst. 62: 42135).

World Wide Web Sites (WWW):

list author (if known), the full title of the document in quotation marks, date of publication or last revision, the address of the web site and the full path to find this document:

Stewart CV, Tsai CL, Perera A. Aview-based approach to registration: Theory and application to vascular image registration. *Proc. Intl. Conf. on Information Processing in Medical Immaging (IPMI)*, 2003. (<http://www.cs.rpi.edu/~stewart/>)

NOTES ARE PLACED BEGINNING JUST BELOW CITATION AND EXTEND AS NEEDED!!!