Library training

1h Q&A session

- Distinguish document types
- Get familiar with the EPFL Library information resources
- Search, evaluate and use information
- Cite correctly and avoid plagiarism
- Use Zotero
Distinguish document types

In general:
• Evaluate the **authority** of the author
• Pay attention to the **context**
• Evaluate the **freshness of the information** (depending on the subject)
• Encyclopaedias are fine to get an **idea of a subject which is new to us** (and to get references)
• **Diversify** your sources
Get familiar with the EPFL Library resources

A rich collection of:

- Books and eBooks
- Databases
- Journals
- Working papers
- Standards
- Patents
- And more…

Available from EPFL Library website (on campus or via VPN):
https://www.epfl.ch/campus/library/collections/
What about ChatGPT?

Keep in mind:
- It can’t be considered a reliable source by design
- It uses patterns, it doesn’t have a full understanding of the subject
- Impossible to say where the information comes from

Our advice? Use it (or not) to:
✓ Get a basic idea about a new subject (but double check the information)
✓ Brainstorm about the possible structure of a paper, poster and get new ideas if you’re stuck
✓ Fine-tune language/style
× Write a paper from scratch
× Use it as the only source of information
Bullt your search equation:

The classical way: *How to treat wastewater to remove micropollutants?*

- Pull out the main concepts, keywords
  - *Wastewater*/ *Micropollutant*/ *Treat*/ *Remov*
- Think of synonyms and related concepts
  - « Sewage Sludge » / *Saniti*/ *Process*/ *Extracti*/ *Method*
- Write a search equation
  - (Process* OR Method*) AND ("Wastewater treatment" OR "Wastewaters treatment" OR Wastewater*) AND Micropollu*
Built your search equation:

**The AI way:** «Build me a search equation for a database on the following topic: "How to treat wastewater to remove micropollutants » »

("wastewater treatment" OR "water treatment") AND
("micropollutants removal" OR "micropollutants treatment") AND
("methods" OR "techniques" OR "strategies")
Wos, Scopus, Google Scholar

- Demo
  - https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/basic-search
  - https://www.scopus.com/search/form.uri?display=basic#basic
  - https://scholar.google.com/
Cite correctly and avoid plagiarism

- The EPFL library offers several resources to help you with: why, when and how to cite your sources

  - Bibliotheque_EPFL_Guide_Rational_Bibliographic.pdf

  - Guides, recommended tools and tutorials – Library - EPFL

  - Essential_Bibliographic_Versionanglais_20211003 (1).pdf
Use Zotero

- Demo Zotero, Zotero online, Overleaf
- https://www.zotero.org/
Thank you!

Contact us
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