Referencing in Biology 140

There are many different referencing styles in the science discipline – particularly in biology, almost every journal has a particular referencing style! To keep it simple, however, we use the **Harvard Citation and Referencing style** in Biology 140. This is a style you are possibly already familiar with and it is used across a range of different disciplines.

The University of Western Australia has a useful website that you should use for **Harvard Citations and Reference List formatting**:

http://guides.is.uwa.edu.au/harvard

Most resources that you will be using in Biology 140 will be Books, Journal Articles, and maybe websites and theses. You can access information and examples on how to cite and reference each type of resource by using the ‘Reference formats’ menu bars.
In-text Citations

In general, there are two main methods of citing in text that include only author surname and year of publication. For example,

According to Smith and Jones (2015), the majority of Biology 140 students have difficulty citing correctly in text.

OR

The majority of Biology 140 Students have difficulty citing correctly in text (Smith & Jones 2015)

Carefully follow the Harvard In-Text formatting style, since citations varies slightly depending on a number of things such as number of authors, authors with the same name, or multiple citations in one set of parentheses. You will notice the use of the words ‘et al.’, which is an abbreviation of a Latin phrase that means ‘and others’. For example, ‘research by Smith et al. shows...’ refers to Smith and colleagues.

Page numbers are only applicable if you quote directly, which you should avoid.

Reference List

The reference list (sometimes called Literature Cited) comes at the end of a piece of writing (on a new page) and provides the necessary information for the reader to locate any source you may have cited. Every in-text citation must be included in your reference list, and vice versa. (A reference list is different from a bibliography where you might include a resource you read in preparation of your paper, but did not cite directly).

Carefully follow the Harvard In-Text formatting style, since the format varies depending on which type (e.g. book chapter, journal article etc.) of resource you are referencing. Below is an example of how you should reference the resource cited above (under ‘In-text Citations’):