The University of Wolverhampton requires all students to use the Harvard Referencing Method to reference academic work.

Full guidance for using the Harvard referencing method is available on WOLF2:

Subscribe to SCIT students, and on the left menu, select Learning Resources—includes Harvard Referencing. Download the Harvard Referencing file.

Books

Websites

Slides

Conference Papers

Journals

Interviews

Why do we need to reference academic work in the UK?

The Principle of Intellectual Property: In a capitalist society such as the UK, an idea may be owned by the person who “fixed” it in a unique way—using these ideas without giving the reference is like stealing the idea.

The Principle of Access: This helps readers find any information you use quickly, which helps to spread knowledge.

The Principle of Economy: This is to reduce the need to write some details in the text—a reference allows interested readers to get more information from cited sources.

The Principle of Standardization: Everyone who knows how to reference will use a method, and this can then be understood by other academics and researchers, making it easier to acquire knowledge.

The Principle of Transparency: This leaves no doubt where the information comes from, and how YOU came to know it.

REMEMBER TO REFERENCE!
If you use blocks of text that are copied from the internet, class slides, or out of textbooks, it is likely that you will be caught—if you can find it, so can we. If you are going to use text verbatim, referencing allows you to do this and not be guilty of academic misconduct! UK Universities have software that can easily find plagiarism, including the use of other students’ work. Do not assume that because someone else didn’t get caught that you won’t—Referencing might seem to be tedious, but it IS required.

## Avoiding Plagiarism

### Original Text:
The public sector has become especially notorious for attempts to introduce large scale and ambitious information systems that have foundered altogether, at great expense, or that have been delivered very late, hugely over-budget, and with grossly inadequate functionality. The situation in private industry may be no better but commercial confidentiality and the lack of public accountability may make it less visible. (Shapiro, D. (2005) Participatory Design: The will to Succeed. In Journal of Association for Computer Machinery: Proceedings of the 4th decennial conference on Critical computing: between Sense and Sensibility August 21-25 2005, Arhus:Denmark. New York:New York. ACM Digital Library, pp. 29-38)

### Referenced properly:
In the public sector, there is a need to prove value for money, at least in concept. In practice, information systems are often implemented in the public sector that are substantially over-time, over-budget, and lacking in the required functionality. Private entity shortcomings are perhaps not as obvious due to a corporate environment that doesn’t share information, but are likely to have similar issues. The notion that the development of information systems is often without proper controls or accountability is easy to believe (Shapiro, 2005)

*Note the words have changed, but the meaning hasn’t*

### Plagiarised:
The public sector has become famous for attempts to introduce large and ambitious information systems that have failed altogether, at great expense, or that have been delivered very late, hugely over-budget, and with grossly inadequate function. The situation in the private sector may be no better but commercial confidentiality and the lack of public accountability may make it less obvious.

*Note that some words have changed, but the text is largely in tact.*

### How do I cite references in the text?
The National Health Service (NHS) has sought for many years to develop a national database of patient records to reduce costs, improve the efficiency of medical personnel, to share information between NHS trusts, and to facilitate research into treatments and cures for illness. (Johnson et. al. 2004; Jones, 2004) It has, sadly, failed to achieve these goals to date, even though it represents the largest software project anywhere on earth. (Shapiro, 2005) The NHS has suffered some catastrophic software programme failures. Software projects often fail to meet some or all of their objectives (Fox, 2005), but failures of the NHS are more visible because it is a public entity, and past failures have been significant. The cautionary tale of the London Ambulance Service acts as a notable case in point. (Finkelstein et. al. 1996) The project was developed with costs in mind and its development strategy was identified as high risk before it went live. Costs and the management desire to change working practices, rather than support for the real world processes, were used to develop this system.*

*Quotes also require page numbers.*

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### Referencing Checklist

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