**Finding and Citing References**

Purpose

* Learn background information so that your questions, hypotheses, and experimental designs are informed by previous research.
* Use information from credible, peer-reviewed sources to support your claims.
* Properly credit the references used by citing them.

Finding Peer-Reviewed References

* There are many databases that can help you find academic references:
  + Google Scholar (scholar.google.com)
  + Scopus (www-scopus-com.argo.library.okstate.edu)
  + JIBI (https://undergradsciencejournals.okstate.edu)
  + OSU Library Website (library.okstate.edu)
  + Wikipedia (www.wikipedia.org)
    - Wikipedia should not be used as a reference, but can help you find references if they are cited in a Wikipedia entry.
* You should **only** use peer-reviewed references, such as articles in academic journals, academic textbooks, and government reports.
  + Do **not** use websites as references (there are exceptions, however). Academic articles can almost always be downloaded or viewed as pdf files.
    - Government websites (.gov) can be used, but try to find the information elsewhere first.

Citing References - Page G40 in the lab manual

* When citing references, you should always aim to cite the original source of the information.
* Generally, the more current a reference is, the better. However, citing the original source is more important than citing a current reference.
* This course uses the Ecology style guide (different courses may use different style guides).
  + One author: Author Last Name, Author First Initial. Year. Article Title. *Journal Title*. Volume: Page range.
    - Example: Jones, A. 2018. The natural history of the Madagascar Hissing Cockroach. *Science*. 51: 68-71.
  + Two authors: Author 1 Last Name, Author 1 First Initial and Author 2 First Initial Author 2 Last Name. Year. Article Title. *Journal Title*. Volume: Page range.
    - Example: Jones, A. and J. Doe. The natural history of the Madagascar Hissing Cockroach. *Science*. 51: 68-71.
  + Three or more authors: Author 1 Last Name, Author 1 First Initial, Author 2 First Initial Author 2 Last Name, Author 3 First Initial Author 3 Last Name, and Author 4 First Initial Author 4 Last Name. Year. Article Title. *Journal Title*. Volume: Page range.
    - Example: Jones, A., J. Doe, R. Smith, and L. Gray. 2018. The natural history of the Madagascar Hissing Cockroach. *Science*. 51: 68-71.
* When writing a statement that uses information from a reference, you must cite the reference in that sentence.
  + One author: (Author Last Name Year)
    - Example: Madagascar hissing cockroaches are typically found on the island of Madagascar where the average temperature is 28°C (Jones 2018).
  + Two authors: (Author & Author Year)
    - Madagascar hissing cockroaches are considered ectotherms (Jones and Doe 2018).
  + Three or more authors: (Author 1 et al. Year)
    - Example: Ectotherms include invertebrates, like cockroaches, as well as reptiles and amphibians (Jones et al. 2018).
  + You can also incorporate the name(s) of the author(s) into the sentence. (Year)
    - Example: Jones et al. (2018) used Madagascar hissing cockroaches in their study of ectotherm metabolism.

SOCS- Page G44 in the lab manual

* Statements of Critical Significance (SOCS) are a type of annotated reference, and may be used on week 2 and 3 planning forms.
* SOCS are short sentences (<40 words - about the same length as a tweet) that summarize important aspects of references.
* SOCS are intended to be copied and pasted directly into your manuscript, so they should be complete and grammatically correct sentences, and should include the in text citation.
* There are three types of SOCS, each with a color code:
  + Orange SOCS summarize key findings or interpretations from a reference.
  + Green SOCS compare or contrast findings or implications from two references.
  + Purple SOCS identifies methodologies used in a reference that you can use in your study.