Guiding students through a shifting landscape: integrating Open Research topics into information literacy training at the University of Strathclyde

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Definitions:

Open Access

"Open Access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions" (Peter Suber, Director of the Harvard Office of Scholarly Communication, 2004 https://legacy.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm)

Open Research

- Open Access is part of a broader movement referred to as **'Open Research'.** 'Open Research' is used interchangeably with the terms 'Open Science' or 'Open Scholarship'.
- Open Research refers to extending the principles of openness to all aspects of the research lifecycle
- The key concept is that the underlying data, processes and outputs of research should be made as open and as transparent as possible.

Scholarly publishing: a changing landscape

Photo by Danting Zhu on Unsplash

Above all, do no harm!

Wise, A. (2022) [Twitter] 31 May. Available at: https://twitter.com/wisealic/status/1531563614645239808 (Accessed 20 June 2022)

Context at the University of Strathclyde

Two different teams within Library Services:

Research and Learning Support Team (RLS)

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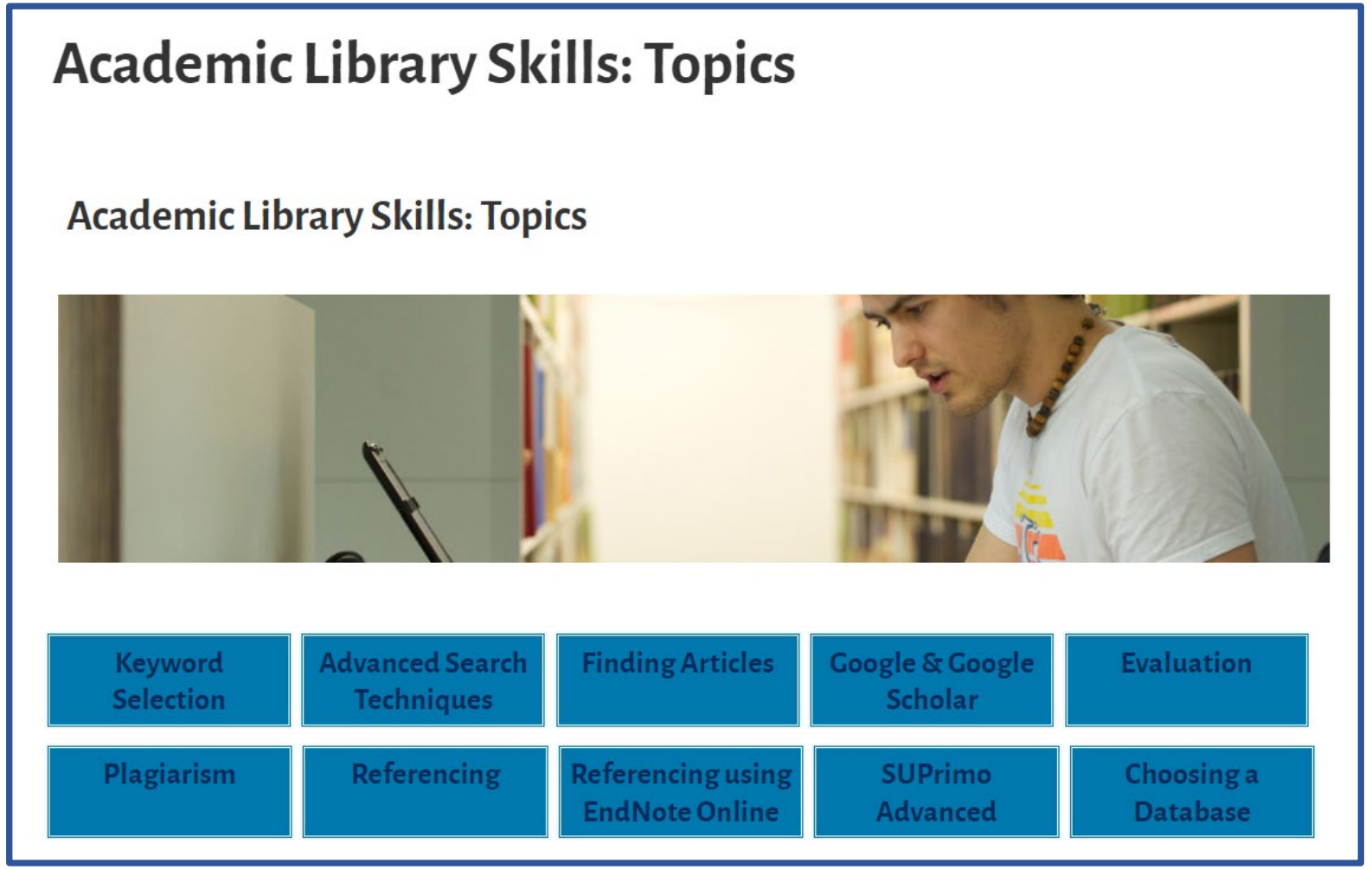
Scholarly Publications
and Research Data Management (SPRD)

Existing online information literacy training: Academic Library Skills (ALS) - MyPlace/Moodle

https://classes.myplace.strath.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=24679



Project to revise ALS course, led by RLS

- Revise existing content
- Create new content, including an entirely new module focused on copyright

****This was an excellent opportunity for the SPRD team to be involved in shaping the course content and introduce key concepts and skills from Open Research****

Timescale:

- The project began in February 2022
- March-April – creating and revising curriculum plans
- April – June – creating and revising video and other activities
- June-July – uploading of content to new 2022/20232 module
- August – publishing of new and revised content to 2022/2023 Myplace site

Outcomes (still a work-in-progress)

- New **learning outcomes** relating to Open Access/Open Research introduced to ALS modules including:
  - Finding Articles
  - Evaluation
  - Choosing a database

  For example, the 'Finding articles' module now includes the learning outcomes, 'Identify a range of tools that can be used to locate Open Access content'

- Three new **videos** are being created:
  - 'Finding Open Access materials' (in the Finding Articles topic)
  - 'Taking your evaluation skills further: evaluating scholarly publications' (in the Evaluation topic)
  - 'Accessing Open Access databases' (in the Choosing a Database topic)

•Assessment activities such as **quizzes** now incorporate questions on the new types of scholarly publication and Open Research

Future Plans?

- Create new content focused on Research Data Management
- We are also working to revise existing content on Open Access publishing and bibliometrics, but this could be expanded to include content relating to broader research dissemination activities and Citizen Science
- Explore the possibility of developing more ‘advanced’ Open Research-related content aimed at postgraduate taught students and doctoral researchers

Take home messages:

For information literacy instruction to be sustainable in future, it is vital that it adapts to include concepts and skills associated with Open Research

Collaboration is key!

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Thank you!

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