



# Research Capacity Building Workshop 8: *Research Reading Skills Part 1*

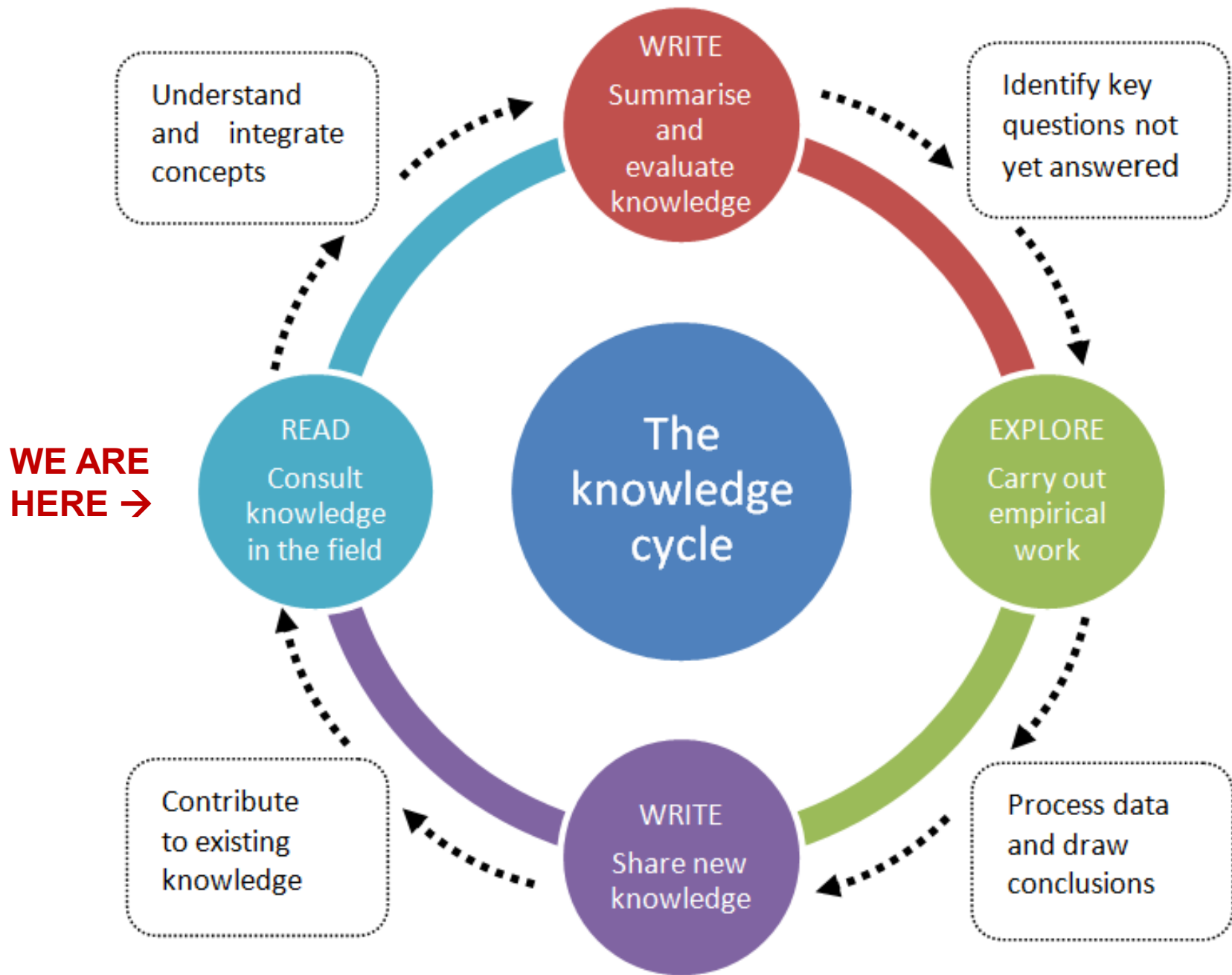


# Finding and organising sources

Programme:

- Introductions
- Readings about readings
- Some purposes the literature serves
- Key words and refining searches
- Organising sources

Literature searches, other practical applications and discussions will be carried out during the workshop.



# Online Forum

An online forum has been set up at the following web address: <http://dutmoodle.dut.ac.za/moodle/>

Click on category *RPS Research Capacity Building*, and click on course *Research Matters*.

Materials are posted there online after workshops, including useful articles and books.

To log in:

User ID: staff or student number

Password: research

Once on *Research Matters*, go to the “Social forum”.

# Workshops listed on *Research Matters*

After each workshop, materials and resources are posted on the Moodle course *Research Matters*, which provides a recap of what has been covered so far.

Guests can browse through *Research Matters*, see what has been done, and download resources and materials without having to log in.

# Introductions

Reply to my message on the Social Forum headed:  
RESEARCH READING SKILLS PART 1 on 11 April 2013

Introduce yourself and your research topic or area, as well as level of study (e.g. MTech, DTech).

Next, tell us:

1. which point you have reached with your reading, and
2. what difficulties (if any) you anticipate or are facing even now.

# Reading about reading

Go to the following web pages, read what is said about reading, and post a response to my message:

- <http://dutmoodle.dut.ac.za/moodle/mod/resource/view.php?id=1532>
- <http://dutmoodle.dut.ac.za/moodle/mod/resource/view.php?id=1536>
- <http://dutmoodle.dut.ac.za/moodle/mod/resource/view.php?id=1745>
- <http://dutmoodle.dut.ac.za/moodle/mod/resource/view.php?id=1540>

# Some purposes the literature serves

- Contextualises your research in terms of the body of knowledge available.
- Summarises research in the field.
- Gives insight into the disciplinary matrix of the field.
- Acts as an exemplar of scholarly writing.
- Models research orientations and methodologies.
- Can be used to reference a fact or opinion.
- Can be used as evidence to support your argument.
- Demonstrates knowledge of the field or area.
- Demonstrates you have mastered certain research conventions.



Display replies in



### Finding a crucial reading online

by Dee Pratt - Friday, 17 February 2012, 09:23 AM

Using Google, search for a critical reading which you need at this stage of your research, and see if you can find (and download) a free copy. Report back, saying (1) how you found it (e.g. what keywords did you use) and (2) whether you could get a free copy (and why not, if not).

[Reply](#)



### Re: Finding a crucial reading online

by JANICE LISE MOOLMAN - Friday, 17 February 2012, 09:45 AM

I googled: Operations Management, clothing, thesis

I was able to find a 2011 Dissertation towards a Masters in Consumer Science at University of Pretoria.

I was able to download a full PDF version of this thesis.

This gives me confidence that there are relevant resources related to my subject matter expertise as well as relevant to the industry that I work in.

Perhaps this Masters is "doable" after all!!!!

[Show parent](#) | [Reply](#)

# *What* literature should you be looking for?

- Peer-reviewed journal articles
- Overviews, summaries and reviews of previous/current work in the area or field
- Peer-reviewed Conference papers in proceedings
- Theses in the area or field
- Older seminal works

Examiners do **not** like *Wikipedia* or too many web pages or blogs!

# Key words and refining searches

- Move from general key words to more specific ones.
- Group phrases with “ ” as the search progresses.
- Look for authors.
- Look for whole titles.
- Add these words to your search to find book/article titles:

References

Bibliography

*Remember you will also be searching for literature on methods and research orientations in the field/area.*

# Change key words to follow up useful leads

Change key words when interesting or useful aspects come up in the search.

A student researching the teaching of pattern-designing software found that her focus moved to the issue of the (alleged) skills scarcity in Industry, so Googled using key words :

"skills shortage" in South Africa clothing industry  
apparel

# Reading happens before, during and after the research

- You should read for 4 - 6 months before deciding on your masters or doctoral research topic (*or* registering).
- Literature appears throughout the thesis, and not just in the Literature Review.
- Regular reading is needed to follow up new points in your argument while you are writing the thesis.
- It is only when the thesis has been written that you find out what you should have read.
- As you finish your thesis, you will find several other students finishing in the same field or area: you must cite those whose findings may be relevant.

# Search with determination!































There is very little you cannot find (free) on the Internet if you search with determination!

- If you have to pay for an article/book, first check whether it is free (for staff and students) on DUT Library “Summon”.
- If you join Academia.edu, you can often get free copies.
- Most theses can be obtained free from university libraries (but you may need to ask permission).
- Search until you find the published version with journal/publisher and page numbers.
- Find the author or person/organization that produced the information on web pages: the text didn't write itself!

# Save everything you find!

Save every piece of literature you find, even if you later reject it as not being relevant!

- Download in .pdf format whenever possible.
- If not, copy webpage contents on to a MSWord doc and save as a file.
- Always paste the webpage address on to the document.
- Save files (or rename later) with author, date and title in the file name.
- Organise your saved files so that you can find them again quickly.
- Enter literature details into EndNote as soon as possible.

Name	Date modified	Type
 Bodomo 2010 - Computer Mediated Communication for Linguistics and Literacy	2012/01/05 01:46 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Borden & Pritchard 2001 - Conflict of interest in Journalism	2013/03/03 11:54 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Borrego, Douglas & Amelink 2009 - Quantitative, qualitative and mixed research methods in Engineering Education	2013/02/09 07:55 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Bosman 2012 - An exploration of the current status quo of animal chiropractic in South Africa	2012/07/29 05:50 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Brandenburg 2008 - Powerful Pedagogy - Self Study of a Teacher Educators Practice	2011/11/10 11:07 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Broadbent & Brown 2002 - Issues in Religious Education	2011/11/16 10:09 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Brown 2000 - Principles of language learning and teaching	2011/12/29 04:55 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Brumfit & Mitchell 1990 - Research in the Language Classroom - Developments in English Language Teaching	2011/12/30 01:41 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Brumfit 1983 - Language Teaching Projects for the Third World	2011/12/30 12:10 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Burns 1999 - Collaborative Action Research for English Language Teachers	2011/12/30 01:29 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Bush & Heystek 2003 - School Governance in the New South Africa	2013/01/08 10:55 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Byram & Grundy 2003 - Context and Culture in Language Teaching and Learning	2011/12/29 08:33 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Cameron 1998 - Computer Assisted Language Learning - Programme Structure and Principles	2012/01/05 02:19 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Carlsson 2003 - Advancing Information Systems Evaluation (Research) A Critical Realist Approach	2012/10/03 06:47 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Carlsson 2003 - Critical Realism - A Way Forward in IS Research	2012/10/03 06:48 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Carlsson 2005 - Developing Information Systems Design Knowledge - A Critical Realist Perspective	2012/10/03 06:44 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Carlsson 2009 - Critical Realist Information Systems Research	2012/10/03 07:07 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Carr 2011 - Mobility shifts - the politics of digital culture	2012/05/28 01:02 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Carter & New 2004 - Realist social theory and empirical research	2012/10/29 03:18 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Chapelle 2003 - English Language Learning and Technology	2012/01/05 02:39 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Chouliaraki & Fairclough 1999 - Discourse in Late Modernity	2012/01/01 08:01 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Christians, Ward, Rao & Wasserman 2010 - Toward a Global Media Ethics - Theoretical Perspectives	2013/03/09 02:36 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Collier 1999 - Being and Worth - Critical Realism Interventions	2011/10/13 10:37 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Cook 2008 - Second Language Learning and Language Teaching	2011/12/30 01:38 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Costea 2007 - Meeting students' and supervisors' expectations	2012/12/18 09:31 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Creswell 2002 - Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches	2012/05/31 03:41 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Creswell 2009 - Mapping the Field of Mixed Methods Research	2012/12/20 03:21 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Creswell 2009 - Research design - qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches	2012/08/29 03:50 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Crowe 2010 - Advancing Social Studies Education through Self Study Methodology	2011/11/10 10:36 ...	Adobe Acrob
 Cruikshank 2007 - Critical realism - the difference that it makes - Introduction	2012/12/09 09:49 ...	Adobe Acrob



# Finding the bibliographic details

You may find an article or book online without the necessary bibliographic details.

- Search for it in other Reference lists online.
- Do *not* use “as is”: change the style to suit the Referencing style you are using.
- Do not copy other people’s errors!

# Lies, damned lies, and Google.....

Lukanov (1968) continues when discussing the origins of critical realism by saying:

Critical realism was established as an independent school in the USA in 1920, when D. Drake, A. Lovejoy, D. Pratt, A. Rogers, G. Santayana, R. W. Sellars, and C. Strong published their *Essays in Critical Realism*, a detailed exposition of the doctrine of critical realism.

## **ACTUAL REFERENCE:**

Drake, D., Lovejoy, A.O., Pratt, J.B., Rogers, A.K., Santayana, G., Sellars, R. and Strong, C.A. 1920. *Essays in critical realism: a co-operative study of the problem of knowledge*. New York: Macmillan.



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Word / Article  Starts with  Ends with  Text

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- Wikipedia encyclopedia

# Critical Realism

Also found in: [Wikipedia](#)

(redirected from *New British Realism*)

# ESSAYS IN CRITICAL REALISM

A CO-OPERATIVE STUDY OF  
THE PROBLEM OF KNOWLEDGE

BY

DURANT DRAKE  
ARTHUR O. LOVEJOY  
JAMES BISSETT PRATT  
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# Tell us what you found!

In response to my forum message, “Tell us what you found”:

Tell us what you found in your reading searches today, and anything interesting or useful which you have discovered about the search process.

*Good luck with your future searches!*