URP4001

Finding and using

the

Planning literature

Introducing the example topic & setting the scene

The Planning literature and your assignments

Devising Planning solutions with the assistance of:

Documents from professional organisations & governments

Books & online videos

Journal articles & conference papers

In-text referencing

If you need help, please contact the Library, we're here for you!!

Introducing the example topic & setting the scene

To help you learn how to find the kinds of Planning literature that your assignments require, we need to work with a demonstration topic.

Our demonstration topic is:

> How can Smart Growth Principles be used to help identify, prevent and/or resolve transportation issues that influence the level of isolation experienced by individuals and communities in Australia?

We will use this topic to help you understand how to "unpack" your information needs, see out how to search databases, etc.

Go to the online help resource

The Planning literature & your assignments

This resource is designed to help you:

- Link the Planning literature to Planning thinking

- Identify the types of literature and information sources that will help demonstrate the higher order thinking skills required in the ENG4001 assignments.

If you are thinking that these two objectives sound very much alike, you are right. They reinforce each other and will help you maximise the learning opportunities offered by your assignments.

Go to the online help resource

Professional organisations & governments

Professional organisations:

- Professional organisations like the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) and the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) often produce policies, publications, campaign information and other resources that help educate about, and advocate for, important Planning issues

- Planning issues can also become so important that "movements" grow up around them to bring greater power to advocacy. The websites of these movements are generally excellent sources of Planning information. Smart Growth is an excellent example of this.

Governments:

- Governments, of course, do all that they can to pursue their policies and agendas so they are also great sources of particular kinds of information. Hobart City Council is an example (check out the last entry under *Strategies and Plans*).

Go to the online help resource

Books & online videos

Books tend to provide two types of information – both very useful to assignment work:

- Books that help you come to grips with the fundamentals of a topic

- Books where expert professional practitioners and researchers share more detailed understandings and issues associated with a topic

Of course, the latter tend to be very useful to professionals seeking to improve their practice in an area, especially an area that has been the subject of academic and research discussion for quite some time but is only just being recognised by governments and similar bodies.

Go to the online help resource

Journal articles & conference papers

Journal articles and conference papers are the perfect ways to access the:

- Detailed information that lets you understand current thinking on topics

- Debates around professional issues

- Application of research by Planners in our local communities and regions

- Application of theory to real life situations

They introduce students to professional ways of thinking. And, they are a vital source of communication between Planners on the critical and emerging issues of the time.

Go to the online help resource

Referencing

If you have been studying Planning subjects before this one, you will know that Planning uses the APA referencing style NOT the Harvard AGPS style. USQ has an [APA referencing guide](#) for you to consult.

If you are not skilled at in-text referencing, you're not alone. We've also created an [online resource](#) to help you develop your in-text referencing skills. Give it a try.

And, if you need advice or help with your in-text referencing or your referencing list, remember that there is always help at the [Library](#) and [The Learning Centre](#).

Go to the online help resource