

Reading Resources Strategy (RRS) at Anglia Ruskin University

Overview

The University Library (UL) has been actively promoting introducing a Reading Resources Strategy at Anglia Ruskin. This was in response to students' concerns relating to accessing the information resources they require to support their studies.

The initial proposal was accepted and endorsed at University and Faculty Learning and Teaching and Student Experience committees throughout 2010. From semester one 2010 most modules have a presence on the VLE and this includes access to the module guide. With the reading resources template now embedded within the module guide our faculty liaison librarians and their teams have been able to work with faculty staff to improve the quality and accessibility of reading list items. The new Corporate Plan and the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy make references to embedding the strategy in pathways and modules.

Key elements

The most successful implementation of the RRS has occurred when academic and library staff collaborate to identify and include on the module reading list the following:

- Recommended books with advice on access
- Recommended journals with advice on access
- A module key text (where appropriate) with a recommendation for students to purchase
- Specific articles and/or policy papers with weblinks
- Recommended websites

It is also very important that all students get the opportunity to receive information skills training. This training is most effective when embedded within modules so that it is directly relevant to module learning outcomes. The recommended reading list template is available here http://web.anglia.ac.uk/anet/academic/public/assess_scop_procdoc_app_b.doc (page 20)

Reading List Template – Anglia Ruskin University Library

Resources	Notes (on content and access)
Key text (if there is a key text it should appear here) <i>Eg. Taylor, S., 2008. People resourcing. 4th ed. London : CIPD.</i>	<i>Example notes</i> <i>Chapters from this text inform weekly teaching sessions and should be read before class.</i> <i>Students are advised to purchase this text</i>
Books <i>Eg. Armstrong, M., 2006. A handbook of human resource management practice. 10th ed. London : Kogan Page.</i>	<i>Example notes</i> <i>A useful background textbook by a key author.</i> <i>Copies in the library plus an e-book copy.</i>

Journals <i>Eg. Academy of Management Journal</i> <i>Business Ethics : a European Review</i>	<i>Example notes</i> <i>It is important that you draw from material contained in academic journals. These are some relevant titles.</i> <i>These are all available in the Digital Library.</i>
Specific journal articles <i>Eg. McIlroy, J., Ten years of New Labour : workplace learning , social partnership and union revitalization in Britain. British Journal of Industrial Relations, 46 (2), pp.283-313.</i>	<i>Example notes</i> <i>This is a key article.</i> <i>This article will be supplied to you within the VLE in digital format.</i>
Websites <i>Eg. Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service</i>	www.acas.org.uk
Additional notes on this reading list <i>Eg. Additional reading will be recommended weekly in class.</i> Link to the Digital Library http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/ Link to Harvard Referencing guide http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm	

Next Steps

We are continuing to work with faculty staff to improve the means by which students can access the range of resources in support of their studies. We will develop additional guidance for staff and students to assist in this process and to clarify the rationale for this approach. We will run workshops or provide individual advice on a variety of topics including; how to request digitised (scanned) chapters in books or journal articles, how to link to electronic resources in the digital library within the VLE, best use of current awareness services, use of multimedia including BoB – Box of Broadcasts

Further VLE developments proposed will include the option to view Reading Lists independently from the module guide, by clicking on a specified tab.

Faculty Liaison Librarians and subject teams will continue to work closely with academic staff to identify new resources and the latest editions to ensure that we are confident that students are able to access the most appropriate resources to support their studies. Please contact your FLL for further information. <http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/about/stafflist.htm>

Supporting Documentation

Establishing a Reading Resources Strategy at Anglia Ruskin University
http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/policiesplans/files/Reading_Resources_Strategy.pdf

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