Types of Information

Finding the right information for a project can be confusing: here are some ideas to get you started:

- **First define your topic** – know exactly what you want to research before you start using databases or the web. You can use and dictionaries to define and narrow down a topic. It also makes life easier if you list some **keywords**. Or use a mind-map to describe your topic and the issues around it.

- **Next** think about the scope of your topic. For example **Language** and **Date** - do you want references to current or to older research? What language should the information be in?

- **Then** think about the different types and sources of information: choose and locate the ones that best suit your assignment- see below.

- **Finally**: Plan your search using your keywords and chosen information sources (see next page).
Finding the right info

Use the TU Dublin Library and Catalogue resources: www.dit.ie/library

How do I know if this info is of use?

Use your keywords – look for them in the index and on the contents page.

Have you found any of your keywords?

Yes!

Is the text useful? Does it help?

Yes!

Search for and try other types of info

No.

No.

When you’ve found enough information from different sources you need to critically evaluate it to make sure it’s useful and relevant before applying it to your topic. See the CRAAP Test (Library Guide No 6.) if you need more help with this. Then save the details of each resource that you plan to use. You will need this information later in order to create your Reference List. This lists everything you’ve used in your project to avoid plagiarism.