



This work has been submitted to NECTAR, the  
**Northampton Electronic Collection of Theses and  
Research.**

<http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/4258/>

**Creator(s):** MacLellan, F.

**Title:** Referencing and reading comprehension – research in progress

**Date:** 2012

**Originally presented to:** Librarians' Information Literacy Annual  
Conference (LILAC 2012)

**Conference URL:** <http://lilacconference.com>

**Example citation:** MacLellan, F. (2012) Referencing and reading  
comprehension – research in progress. Lecture presented to: *Librarians'  
Information Literacy Annual Conference (LILAC 2012), Glasgow  
Caledonian University, Scotland, 11-13 April 2012.*

**Version of item:** Presented version



# **Referencing and Reading Comprehension: research in progress**

**Fiona MacLellan, Library and Learning Services, The  
University of Northampton**

**Fiona.MacLellan@northampton.ac.uk**

**@fionaunis**



# Rationale



- Idea developed during a Post Graduate Certificate for Teaching in Higher Education
- Discussions with students and academic staff
- Lack of literature investigating this topic

Thanks to and Quinn Dombrowski and Daryl Mitchell for the images (available on flickr).



# Project aims



- Investigate the impact of using a parenthetical referencing system in relation to the effect on reading fluency and comprehension
- Discover if the use of parenthetical referencing systems unfairly disadvantages specific groups of students

Thanks to and Franco Folini for the image (available on flickr).



# Project plan

- **Stage 1: Literature review**
- Stage 2: Interviews with academic staff
- Stage 3: Data analysis – allocation of marks for referencing using parenthetical and numerical systems
- Stage 4: Questionnaire for students – self selecting group
- Stage 5: In depth follow up interviews, with simple testing of student reading comprehension



Thanks to and Hugo Cardoso for the image (available on flickr).



# Ethics

- BERA guidelines 2011
- Voluntary informed consent
- Anonymisation
- Right to withdraw
- University ethics committee



Thanks to and 1Illustr4t0r.com for the image (available on flickr).



# Literature



- Limited – very little research into this side of referencing
- Many studies on reading fluency and comprehension

Thanks to and Betty Snake for the image (available on flickr).



# What now?



- Complete interviews with academic staff
- Questionnaires for students
- Student interviews
- Data Analysis

Thanks to and Andrew Fleming for the image (available on flickr).







**Questions?**

