Massage therapy
Research Skills

So what are we covering today?

- Housekeeping (including Interlibrary Loan)
- Overview of WSI Library resources
- Libguide for Massage
- 3 Main Sources of information
  - Books
  - Journals, magazines, newspapers (print & online)
  - Websites
  - Other sources of information
Interlibrary loans - accessing other TAFE Libraries
Assessment 1. Essay.

In an essay of 1200 -1500 words:

1. Describe the psychological benefits of massage therapy and how they are achieved.
2. Describe the physiological benefits of massage therapy and how they are achieved.
3. Choose one (1) of the following conditions and outline why massage therapy is contraindicated or the client needs to be treated with caution:
   • Cancer
   • Impetigo
   • Rheumatoid Arthritis
   • Thrombosis

Marks will be deducted for essays which are substantially shorter or longer than the required length.

Your essay must be:
• Correctly structured with a complete bibliography and index of quotes.
• Demonstrate research skills by the use of a range of references/texts.
• Written on one side of the paper only.
• Have a 3 cm margin for comments.
• Double spaced if typed to provide room for comments.
• Your original work. No plagiarism.

You need to demonstrate a range of readings and research for your essay. Please include examples of text books, journal articles and internet sites such as the Touch Research Institute. All resources must be referenced and listed in your bibliography. You must include in-text referencing in the essay to support your claims. Please use the Harvard system of referencing. Your Research Methods class on Tuesday afternoon specifically explains essay writing, researching and referencing skills.
3 Pronged approach to Library Research

1. Search the catalogue
   • Save the results and email
   • benefit of doing this?
2. Search library eResources
3. Search freely available online resources

EVALUATING INFORMATION

Author and publisher
• Who is the author/creator or publisher?
• What is their authority?
• What is their bias and purpose in writing or presenting this information?
• Is the content based on opinion or fact?
• Is it a balanced treatment of the topic?

Coverage or scope
• Is it appropriate for my purpose?
• Is the information at the appropriate level and depth?
• Have I found various sides of the story?
  e.g. for and against in a controversial issue, or some statistics as well as a personal account, or information from a government department as well as from an Advocacy group.

Currency
• How recent is the information?
• Is the date of the information important to your topic?

Accuracy:
• Can the information be verified from other sources?
• Is there a bibliography or reference list?