



# How the La Trobe eBureau Works: under the hood

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*La Trobe University Library PD session*

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021



# Acknowledgment of Country

La Trobe University acknowledges that this event and our participants are located on the lands of many Traditional Custodians in Australia.

We recognise their ongoing connection to the land and value their unique contribution to the University and wider Australian society.

We pay our respects to Indigenous Elders, past present and emerging and extend this respect to any Indigenous participants joining us online today.



**Artist:** Kane Nelson

# The status quo: crisis



Cost of education

Costs of resources



Student income

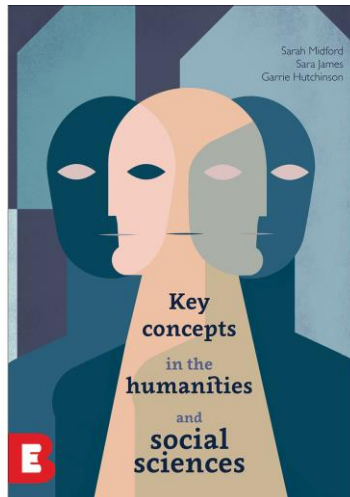
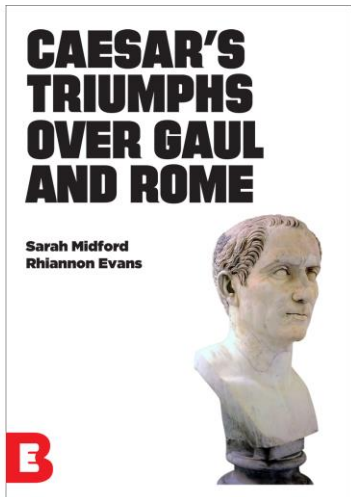
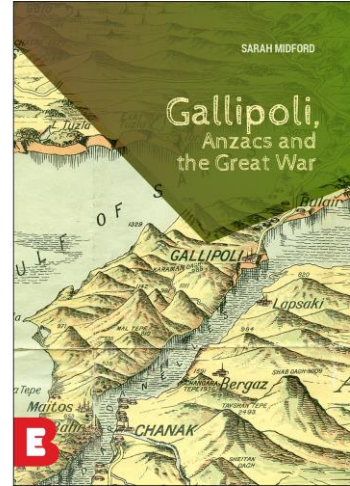
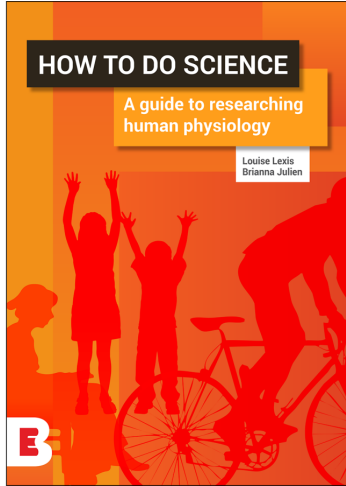
Library budgets



Traditional learning models

Print-centric pedagogy

# Origin story



LTU Innovation grant



Four pilot titles



Investment in

Design

Identity  
kit

Branding

Staffing

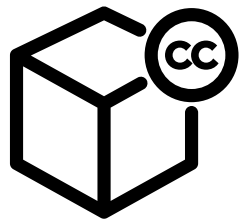
# Library as knowledge creator



LA TROBE eBUREAU



Digital first



Open access



Peer reviewed

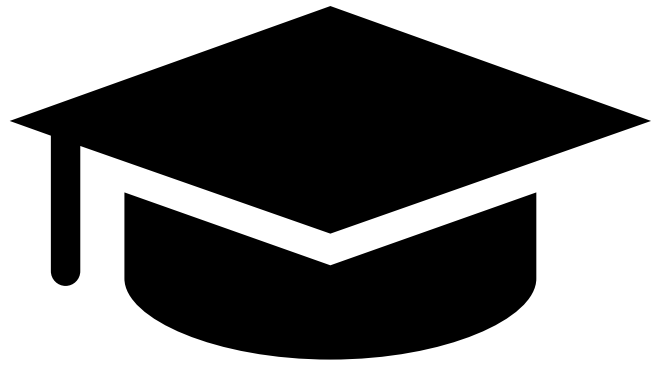


Adaptable



Multimodal

# Benefits for students



- No cost – supports student equity and reduces financial anxiety
- Relevant – reduces information overload
- Current and contextual
- No artificial barriers – access anytime and anywhere
- Do what you want – freedom to download, print, share, and annotate without restrictions

# Benefits for authors

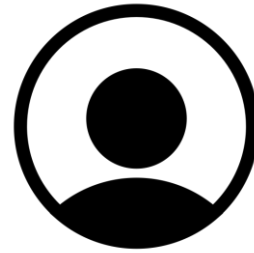


- Student engagement
  - Free means all students can engage
  - Digitally rich and interactive
- Flexible – easily updated, adopted, adapted, and localised in a rapidly changing world
- Globally disseminated via open access – reputational boost for authors
- La Trobe authors for La Trobe courses – consistency in teaching and content
- Logical structure (book) – conceptual bridges. Coherence. Holistic chapter structure.
- *May* count towards research publications to earn academic workload points (ERA/AWPS)

# Core staff (current model)



Business Services and  
Communications Officers



Library Business Services Officer



Coordinator, Open Education



# Core staff (post-LTU transformation)



Manager, Digital Discovery



Digital Discovery Officer

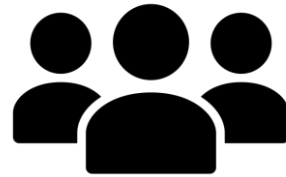


Coordinator,  
Open Education and Scholarship

# Connected ways of working (post-LTU transformation)



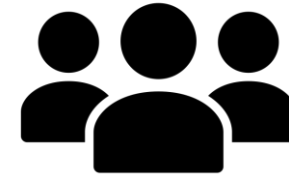
Senior Advisor, Digital Learning  
& Library Skills



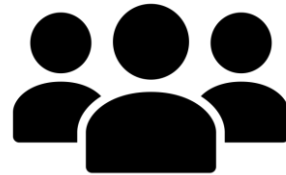
Senior Learning Librarians



University Copyright Advisor

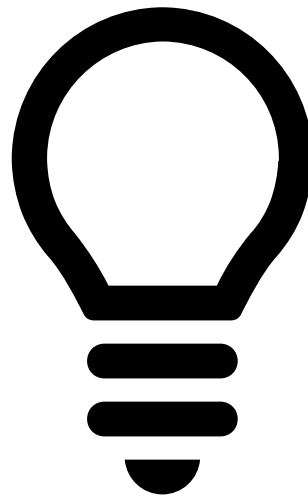


Many others!

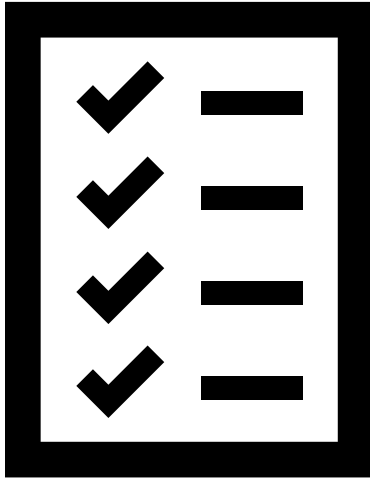


Community Outreach &  
Engagement team

# Getting started: expression of interest



# Eligibility criteria



1. At least one lead author from La Trobe
2. Must be aligned with a La Trobe subject or course code
3. Author must have copyright of the manuscript (i.e. the author wrote it)

**Note:** we take a flexible and open approach to expressions of interest.  
Each project is judged on its own merits.

# What makes a good author proposal?

- Author commitment to a reasonable timeline
- Clarity in aims and scope
- Defined target audience
- Named subject codes & commitment to embed
- Pedagogy: problem-solving, value, and innovation
- Clear sense of how to leverage open access
- Grants / money?





# Author copyright agreement

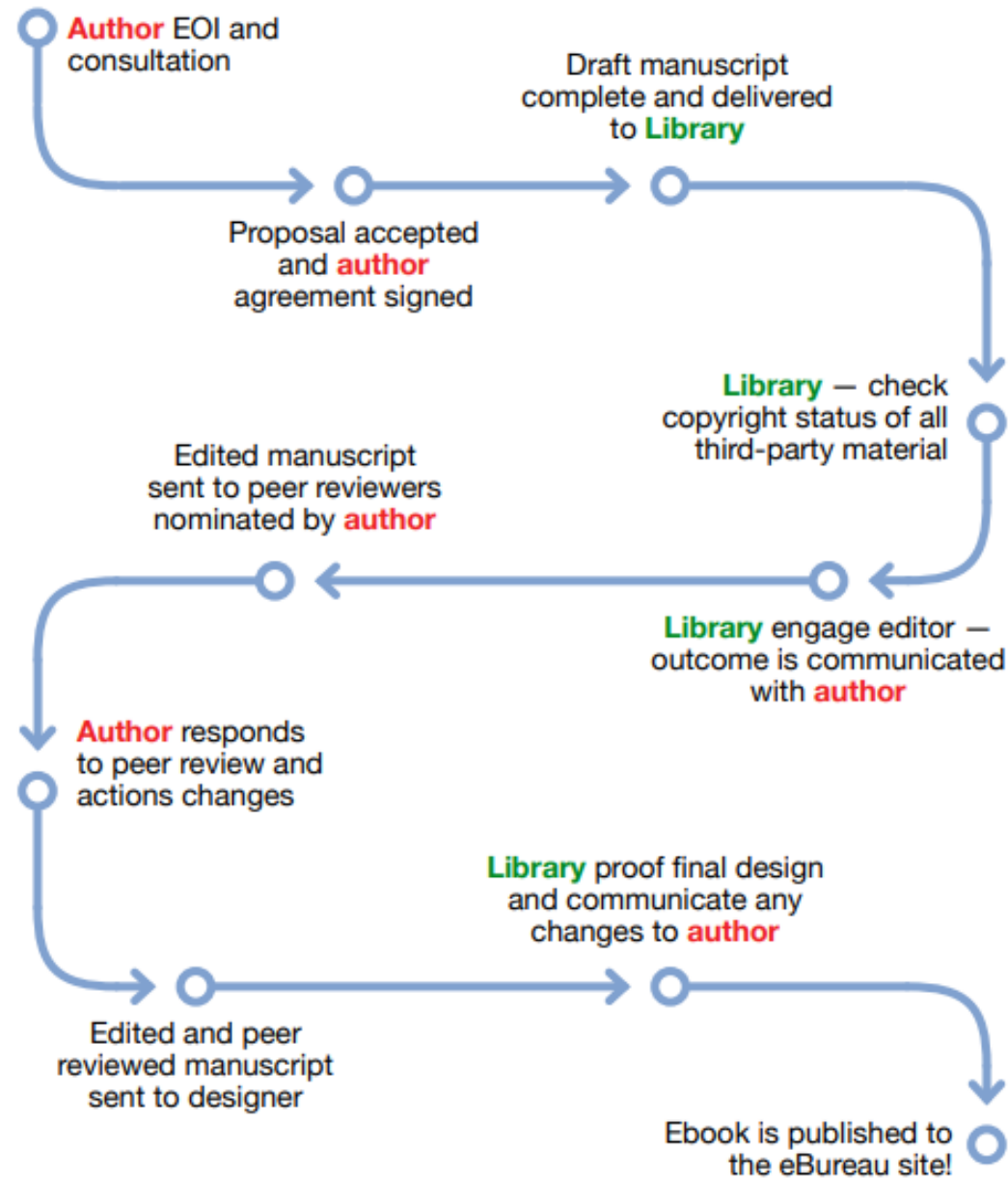
Two options:

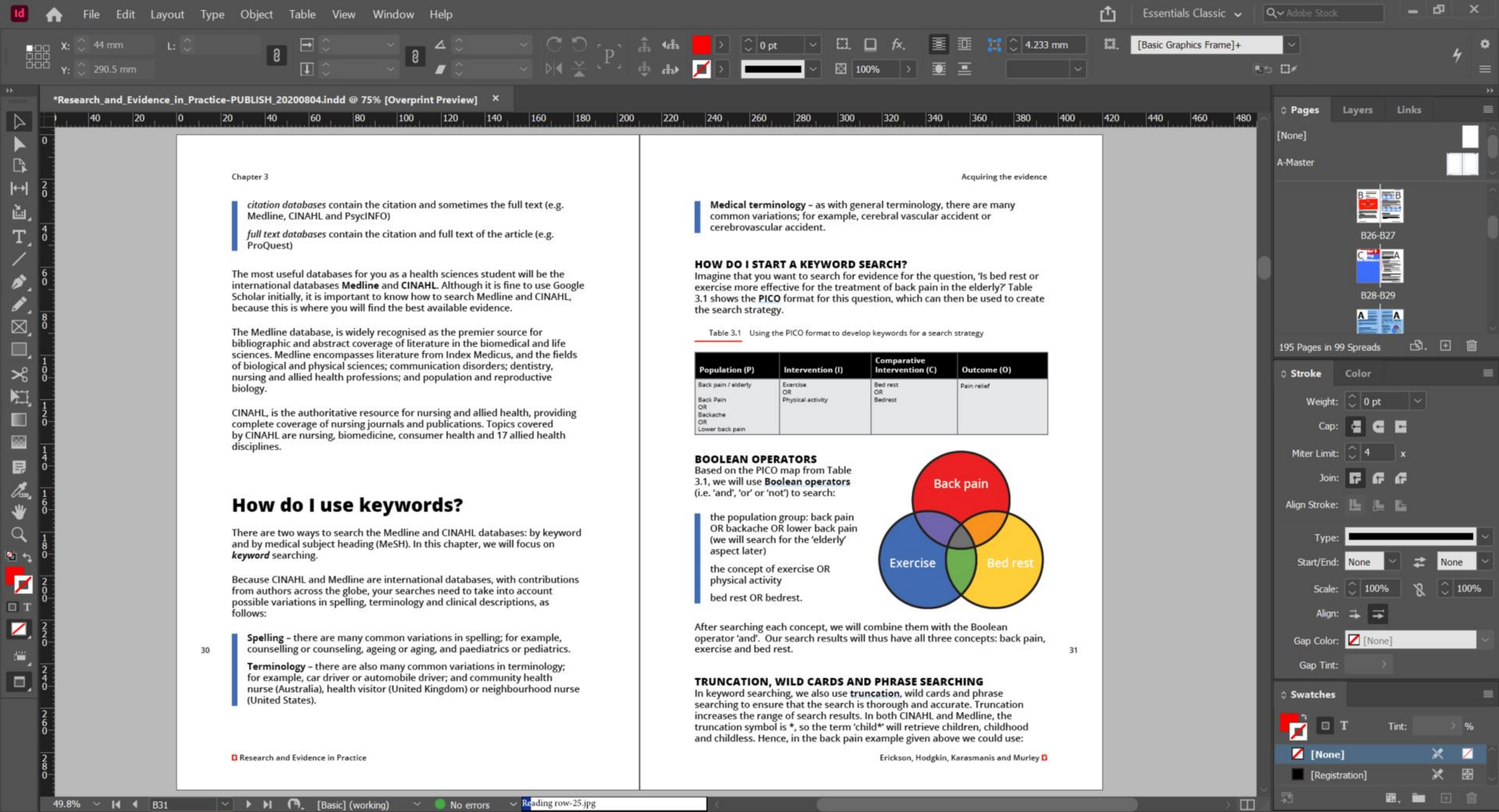


(*recommended* – more open, allows adaptation)



(does not permit derivative adaptations)





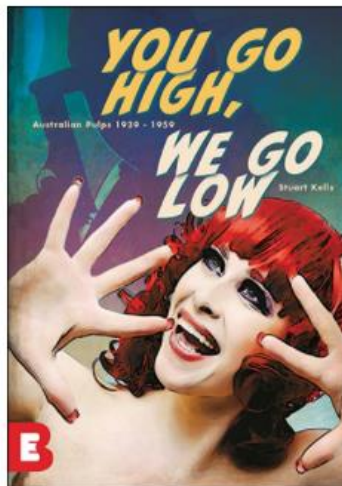
# Platforms we use

## Creation

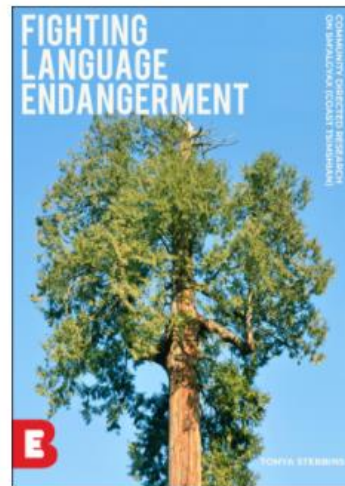
- Adobe Creative Suite:
  - InDesign
  - Photoshop
  - Premiere Pro

## Discoverability

- OPAL
- PRIMO
- National Library of Australia
- eBureau website
- CrossRef (DOI)



Australian Pulp 1939–1959:  
You go high, we go low



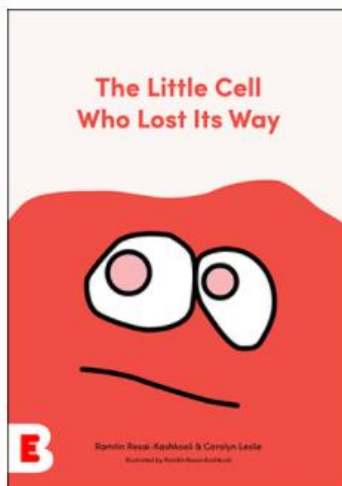
Fighting language  
endangerment: Community  
directed research on Sm'algyax



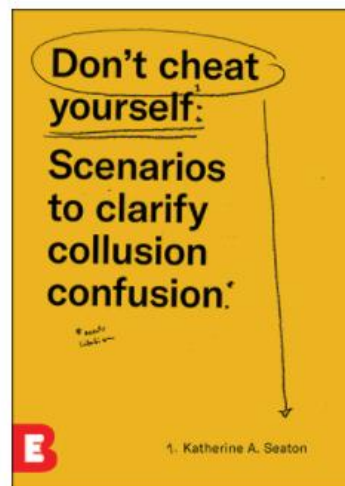
Democracy in difference:  
Debating key terms of gender,  
sexuality, race and identity



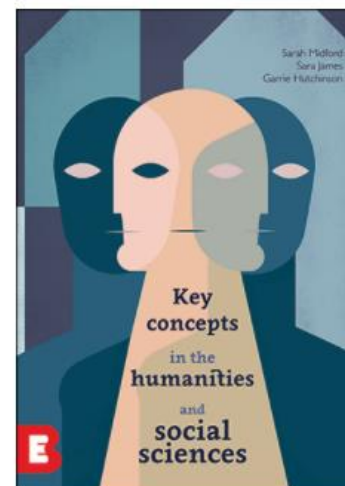
Research and evidence in  
practice



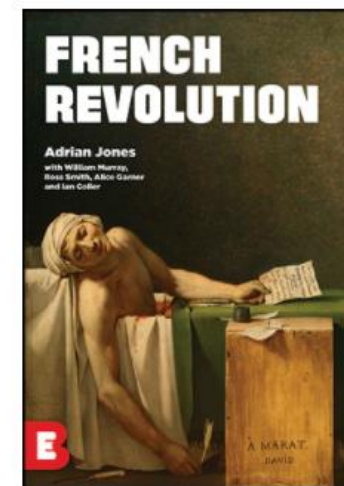
The Little Cell Who Lost Its Way



Don't cheat yourself: Scenarios  
to clarify collusion confusion



Key concepts in the humanities  
and social sciences



French Revolution



## Democracy in Difference

Debating key  
terms of gender,  
sexuality, race  
and identity

E

Carolyn D'Cruz

D'Cruz, C., (2020). Democracy in Difference: Debating key terms of gender, sexuality, race and identity. La Trobe eBureau.  
<https://library.latrobe.edu.au/ebureau/ebook.html#democracyindifference>

## FEMINISM

Feminism is a set of beliefs, practices, and conceptual frames that understand gender as socially, economically and politically entwined in unequal relations of power. It has links to both activist politics and academic knowledge. Traditionally feminism has been defined as advocating for women's rights and gender equality.

According to Janet Halley (2003), for something to be feminist it usually must fulfil the following criteria:

- It must be concerned with the binary of m/f (male/female; masculinity/femininity), which often takes the form of relations between men and women
- It is concerned with the subordination of women in relation to men
- It carries a brief for women to overcome such subordination

While the category of woman is the basis upon which the struggle for gender equality is fought, feminists have had to confront the problem of feminism's own biases in defining and grounding its identity. Feminism has been criticised for favouring the lived experiences of White, middle class, heterosexual women, especially in its liberalist form. Furthermore, for all its criticism of biological determinism in its different waves of struggle, feminism has also fallen prey to an overly deterministic reliance on understanding the boundaries of woman through recourse to biology.

Feminism has become popularly defined in terms of three waves in the conventional periodisations of Western democracies. The first wave is associated with women's suffrage in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century—the right to vote—as well as issues regarding marriage laws, violence, and male consumption of alcohol and temperance laws.

The second wave is marked during the period of other counter-cultural movements in the 1960s, though many of the issues regarding gender discrimination and inequality are captured in Simone de Beauvoir's landmark text, *The Second Sex*, published in 1949. Second-wave feminism is granted the most space in this entry as it is from within this period that women's studies emerged in the academy. Issues popularised during the second wave focused on reproductive rights, family court matters, workplace gender discrimination, sexual harassment and sexual assault. During this time the *sex/gender distinction* became a tool from which to approach the cultural denigration of women in Anglophone contexts, and the slogan 'the personal is political', coined by Carol Hanisch (1969), 2006), became a catch-cry for demands for changes in the gender order.



(top) WWT London Anti-Slavery Bazaar (left) and Chartwell Publishers. (bottom) Portrait of Simone de Beauvoir. Photo by Patrick, 1944.

▶ Seinabo Sey I Owe You Nothing

112

113

## LIBERALISM



John Locke  
Portrait of John Locke  
(1713-1716, 1754)

individuals, liberals often take the credit for propelling the expansion of democracies. For Foucault, liberalism also marks the birth of biopolitics, where forms of governance get tied to disciplinary techniques for monitoring and regulating populations.

In European philosophy John Locke is credited as providing the foundational text for liberal ideology with his *Two treatises of government* (1689/2017). The list of liberal thinkers after Locke is lengthy, though most share the idea (most popularly associated with Jean-Jacques Rousseau) of a social contract between the individual and state and uphold the right to bodily autonomy and private property (Pateman, 1988; Bryson, 2003). Carole Pateman (1988), offers a feminist corrective to this in showing how the social contract was also dependent on everyday sexual contracts that preserved patriarchal relations. Furthermore, situating liberalism with a European heritage can betray the influence that Eastern thinkers had on their Western counterparts. Alison Gopnik (2015) provides a persuasive case, for instance, that David Hume was largely influenced by a student of Buddhist philosophy. Acknowledging such intellectual exchanges keeps us alert that the European tradition of thought is not as self-contained as its reputation in higher education suggests. Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill are also well-known foundational liberal thinkers who were both adherents of utilitarianism—promoting happiness through the principle of aiming for the greatest good to the greatest number of people (Bryson, 2003). Mill was deeply influenced by his wife, Harriet Taylor, who not only shaped his work on women's rights, but contributed to his famous essay *On Liberty* (Popova, undated).

Mary Wollstonecraft is the most famous feminist liberal thinker. In *A vindication of the rights of woman* (1792) she argued that 'the fairer sex' lacks not reason but education; if given the opportunity to study and engage with public life, women would be able to perform as well as men (Bryson, 2003). To this day, this kind of thinking influences liberal feminists who articulate most of their goals in lobbying for equal opportunity through a framework based on ideas of inclusion and extension of rights afforded to men. Other feminists have been more critical of the liberal feminist's acceptance of the heterosexual nuclear family, the patriarchal bias in the social contract, and the non-questioning stance liberal thinkers have in relation to market capitalism and the nation-state.

Marxists are the most renowned opponents to liberal thinking. In response to the democratic revolutions of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and declarations that citizens of these re-established nations in Europe were all free and equal, Karl Marx wrote a cutting rejoinder tackling 'the Jewish question'. The question of treating all citizens as free and equal raised the issue of how Jewish differences in law and customs could be assimilated into these nations. While democracies were supposed to separate



Harriet Taylor Mill (8 October 1807–November 1858) was a philosopher and women's rights advocate, who made substantial contributions to John Stuart Mill's work.

## Case study:

### Research and evidence in practice

- Saves students up to \$123,632+ per semester
- Aligns teaching and content
- Video and multimedia
- Positive student [testimonials](#) praising its clarity and relevance
- Adopted by several Victoria University subjects

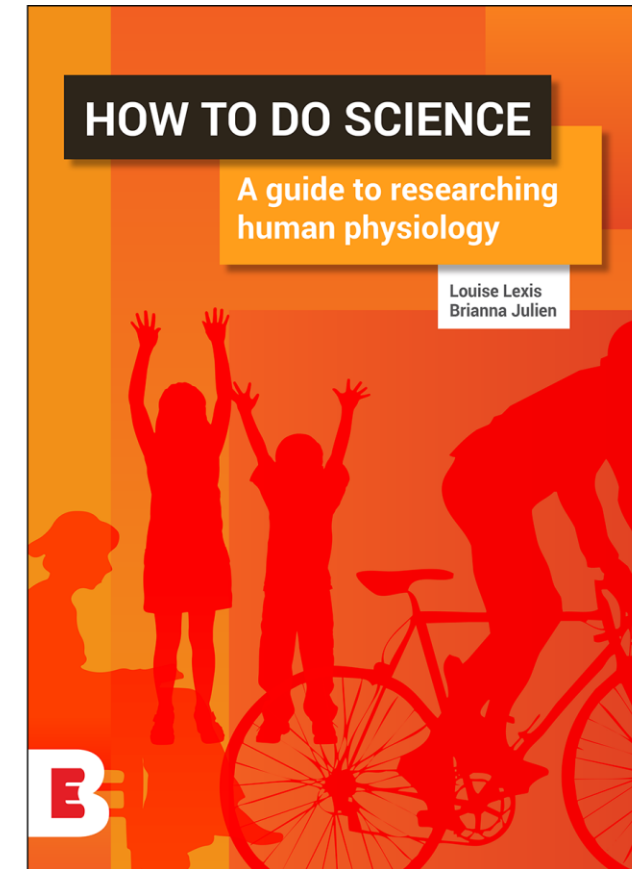
<https://library.latrobe.edu.au/ebureau/ebook.html#researchevidence>



# Case study:

## How to do science

- Global adoption
  - U.S. universities
  - Indonesian medical school
  - USQ, ACU
- [Research study](https://library.latrobe.edu.au/ebureau/ebook.html#howtodoscience) indicated students liked:
  - accessibility
  - navigation
  - quality of content

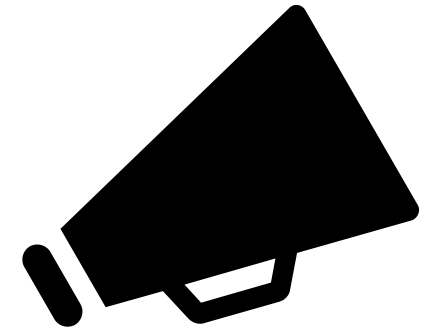


Julien, B. L., Lexis, L., Salisbury, F., Russell, K., & Loch, B. (2018). Human Physiology Students' Perceptions of etextbooks: Towards Open Access as an Alternative to Traditional Textbooks. *International Journal of Innovation in Science and Mathematics Education* (formerly CAL-laborate International), 26(7).

<https://library.latrobe.edu.au/ebureau/ebook.html#howtodoscience>

# Call to action: start the conversation

- Transform existing lecture notes and materials into a holistic publication
- Intervention into course / subject review & redesign
- Fill gaps in the textbook market e.g. Australian text, or a certain perspective/lens
- Advancing student equity and reducing access barriers to education
- Adapt existing open content to create a new resource
- Pivoting to online learning models and resources



# eBureau author kit

## Basic template of informal eBureau EOI, for first contact:

Dear [potential author]

- Aims and scope
- Working title
- Target audience
- Possible courses/subjects at La Trobe where the ebook could be used as learning material
- Estimated publication date (tentative), or approximate manuscript completion date

## Example of previous eBureau informal EOI from 2020 by Stuart Kells:



### Author proposal: La Trobe eBureau title

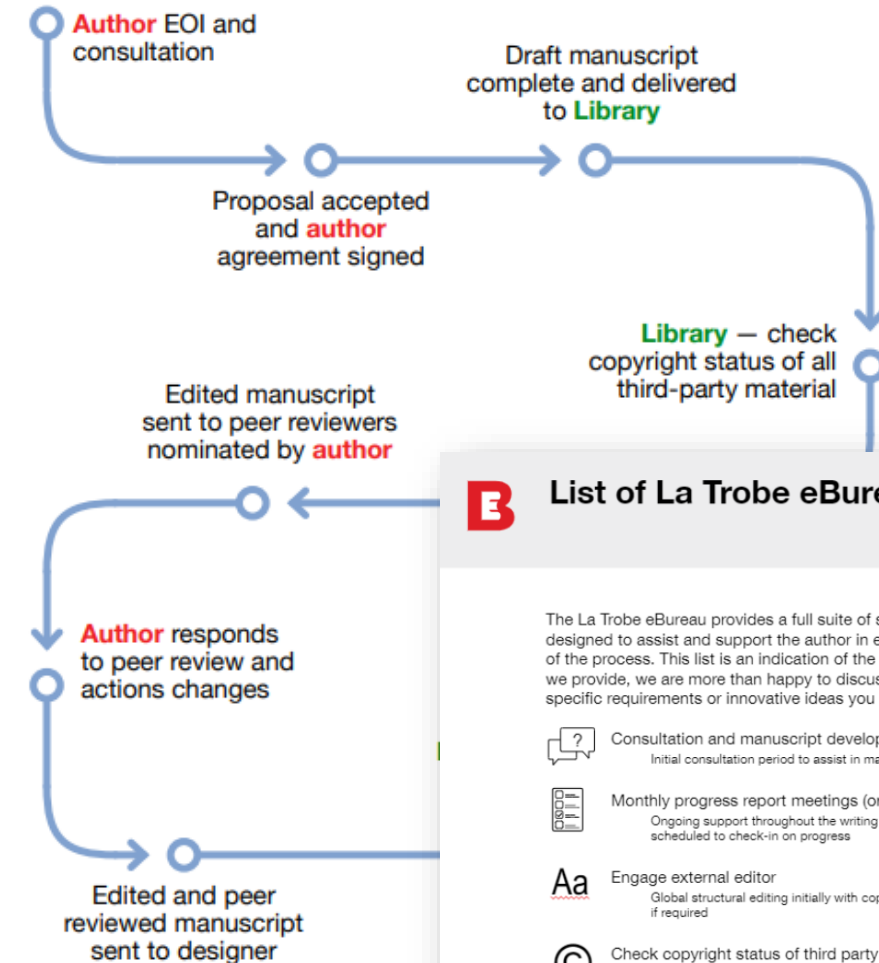
Thank you for putting in an expression of interest to author an ebook with [La Trobe eBureau](#). Please tell us more about your proposal by completing each of the sections below.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Steven Chang at [s.chang@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:s.chang@latrobe.edu.au).

Working title:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Author(s) – must include at least one lead La Trobe author:



## List of La Trobe eBureau services

The La Trobe eBureau provides a full suite of services designed to assist and support the author in every step of the process. This list is an indication of the services we provide, we are more than happy to discuss any specific requirements or innovative ideas you may have.

- Consultation and manuscript development  
Initial consultation period to assist in manuscript development
- Monthly progress report meetings (or as required)  
Ongoing support throughout the writing process regular meetings scheduled to check-in on progress
- Engage external editor  
Global structural editing initially with copyediting before the design phase if required
- Check copyright status of third party material  
We work closely with the Copyright advisor in the Library to check and ensure all third party material is copyright compliant
- Source additional third party material  
Research and source alternative third party material, including, images, videos, diagrams etc.
- Engage peer reviewers (identified by author)
- Engage an external designer or apply in-house identity kit to implement design
- Mint DOI, and ISBN  
Ensure discoverability in Library search, OPAL etc.

[https://opal.latrobe.edu.au/articles/educational\\_resource/La\\_Trobe\\_eBureau\\_author\\_kit/13116455](https://opal.latrobe.edu.au/articles/educational_resource/La_Trobe_eBureau_author_kit/13116455)



# eBureau resources

## Website:

[La Trobe eBureau website](#)

## Author kit:

[La Trobe eBureau author kit \(hosted on OPAL\)](#)

## Peer-reviewed research studies evaluating the La Trobe eBureau:

Erickson, S., Hodgkin, S., Karasmanis, S., & Murley, G. (2017). [An innovative approach to teaching research and evidence in health sciences](#). Paper presented at: *IFLA WLIC 2019 - Athens, Greece - Libraries: dialogue for change*

Julien, B. L., Lexis, L., Salisbury, F., Russell, K., & Loch, B. (2018). [Human physiology students' perceptions of etextbooks: towards open access as an alternative to traditional textbooks](#). *International journal of innovation in science and mathematics education*, 26(7).

## eBureau author panel discussion at Open Access Week 2021:

*La Trobe eBureau presents: it's publishing, but not as we know it – creating equitable and engaging resources for online learning*

[Register now](#): Oct 28, 2021 01:00 PM (AEDT)

# The student's perspective: Sherene



[La Trobe eBureau - A Student's Perspective](#)