Key Resources for Paramedic Studies

This is an introduction to the range of information resources available in LJMU’s libraries to support you during your studies.

Printed Books

The books on paramedic studies, which you will find on the first floor in the Avril Robarts Library, are arranged in a sequence of numbers which runs from 001 to 999. Here is a brief list of some topics within your broad subject with their shelving numbers. Note how books on some topics are shelved at more than one number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Shelf Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>Long-term conditions</td>
<td>362.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Nursing</td>
<td>610.7343</td>
<td>Medical ethics</td>
<td>174.2</td>
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<td>Coronary care</td>
<td>616.12305</td>
<td>Mentoring health care professionals</td>
<td>610.7307</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes nursing</td>
<td>616.462023</td>
<td>National Health Service</td>
<td>362.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elderly care</td>
<td>618.97</td>
<td>Paramedic Practice</td>
<td>616.025</td>
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<td>Infection control</td>
<td>610.73677; 614.4</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>362.1; 614</td>
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<td>Interpersonal Skills</td>
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<td>Paediatric nursing</td>
<td>610.7362</td>
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<td>Interprofessional Working</td>
<td>610.696</td>
<td>Research techniques</td>
<td>610.73072</td>
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<td>Law relating to health professions</td>
<td>344.04</td>
<td>Social Care</td>
<td>361.3068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You will find a link to a list of recommended readings in many modules within Canvas. Click on the entries on the list to check an item’s location and availability.

The best way to find books is to look them up in Discover which you can access via the Search Library Discover tile on the Student home page [https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/students](https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/students). Enter details of the book, e.g. author’s last name and a keyword or two from the title as often all you need. For details of print books select ‘Books (Print)’ in the column headed ‘Tweak my results’.

**Electronic Books**

In addition to the printed books on the library shelves we have a growing number of electronic books or e-books from a variety of suppliers. The best way to search for these is again via Discover. On the search results page select ‘Books (Electronic)’ under Resource Type and ‘Full Text Online’ under Availability.

**Journals**

Journals are scholarly publications which are published on a regular basis. A typical issue will contain articles reporting on recent research projects (primary research) and reviews of recent research/current thinking (secondary research) on specific topics within a subject area.

To see a list of the journals relating to paramedic studies available through LJMU’s subscriptions with links to the latest issues of the journals, click on Browzine on the Electronic Library page, then choose Biomedical and Health Sciences, then Medical Specialities A-N and finally Emergency and Disaster Medicine.

The best way to search for articles on a particular topic is via one or more of the databases described below.

**Locating journal articles**

Your tutors will sometimes recommend that you read a journal article rather than a book or a chapter in a book. If you have details of a specific article you want to read, click on the ‘Find a Reference’ option in Discover (or on the Electronic Library page) and enter the title of the journal, the year the article was published, and the volume, issue and page numbers on which it appeared in the appropriate boxes. The system will guide you to the article.

**Databases and Electronic Journal Collections for Paramedic Studies**

There are two ways to search databases from the Electronic Library page. You can search over 70 major databases at once by running your search in Discover. Alternatively, you can search databases individually.

Discover has advantages, but it is sometimes preferable to search databases individually. This enables you to refine searches in ways which are not available in Discover. Another point to
remember is that Discover is not able to search all the databases for your subject area, so, there are some databases which you can only search individually.

You can access Discover from the student home page on the LJMU website or from the Electronic Library page [https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/library/resources/electronic-library](https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/library/resources/electronic-library)

To access an individual database, click instead on the Databases A-Z link on the Electronic Library page and scroll down the list to the link to the database or electronic journal collection you wish to search.

Databases mentioned below are annotated as follows:

* a service which is automatically included in a search if you use Discover.

** a service which Discover is not able to search.

You are welcome to use any of the services on the Databases A-Z list. Those which are likely to be particularly useful when you are looking for journal articles and other forms of information relating to health and social care include:

**CINAHL Plus with Full text** - nursing and allied health care

**Medline** - medicine

**ProQuest Central** - all subject areas

**Scopus** - life sciences

**Social Care Online** (set up a free account and you will be able to perform more refined searches and use links from search results to full-text publications)

You will find PDF full text and Linked Full Text links to journal articles in some results and Full Text Finder buttons in others. You can request copies of articles which are not immediately available through our inter-library loan service.

Useful full-text journal collections to search include

**Biomed Central**

**BMJ Journals**

**Highwire Press**

**Internurse**

**RCNi**

**ScienceDirect**

**Community Care Inform** LJMU subscribes to both the child and adult editions of this online service which is designed to help social work and social care professionals. These services provide Quick guides, In-depth guides, Knowledge and practice hubs, Guides to legislation, Case law and Research reviews on all aspects of community care.

**LexisLibrary** is a full text service which contains cases, legislation, and journal and newspaper articles from the UK and other countries.
Westlaw UK** is a full text legal database containing case law, legislation and journals from the UK and other countries.

Guides to searching many individual databases are available from https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/library/resources/electronic-library

Evidence-based practice

Many articles available via the databases and collections listed above will be reports on research projects. This section of the guide highlights services which are specifically designed to assist in the development of evidence-based practice.

The Cochrane Library* is a collection of databases that contain high quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making. The databases include the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE) and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL). It is a useful source of answers to questions about the effectiveness of treatments or preventive measures. You can access it via the Databases A-Z option on the Electronic Library page.

NICE Guidance (http://guidance.nice.org.uk/)

CASP UK (http://www.casp-uk.net/) - the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme helps people to find and interpret the best available evidence from health research. The web site includes checklists to help in the appraisal of a variety of types of research study.

The King’s Fund, an independent charity working to improve health and social care in England, provides two potentially useful free services:

King’s Fund Library database (http://kingsfund.koha-ptsfs.eu/) covers journal articles, reports, etc. on policy and management relating to health and social care services but not clinical issues and treatments. Coverage: 1979 to present, and all King’s Fund publications from 1906 onwards

Kings Fund Library reading lists (http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/library/reading-lists) contain selected references to books, reports, journal articles and web resources on a wide range of health and social care related subjects, e.g. Current and future demands on health and social care. List entries include links to items which are freely available from websites.

NICE Evidence Search

http://www.evidence.nhs.uk

Grey literature

The term grey literature encompasses a wide range of material including government publications, reports, statistical publications, newsletters, fact sheets, working papers, technical reports, conference proceedings, policy documents and protocols and bibliographies. These types of document and many more are produced by charities, the Department of Health, non-profit organisations, universities, research centres, international agencies such as the World Health
Organization, health institutes, professional organisations and special interest groups. A feature common to all these organisations is that they are not commercial publishers. The material they publish can be very useful and is often freely available from websites, but it is seldom peer reviewed and can be difficult to trace. Good places to start a search include the Web of Science (for conference proceedings), the Kings Fund Library database (https://koha.kingsfund.org.uk/) and the North Grey Literature Collection website: http://allcatsrgrey.org.uk/wp/. An annotated checklist to help you evaluate grey literature is available at https://dspace.flinders.edu.au/jspui/bitstream/2328/3326/4/AACODS_Checklist.pdf

Statistics relating to Paramedic Studies

Local statistics

Community Health Profiles (https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles) - Local Authority Health Profiles are designed to show the health of people in local authorities across England. These cover all but two of the 388 local authorities, including county councils, district councils, unitary councils and London boroughs. City of London and Isles of Scilly are not covered due to data limitations. These are the first local authority Health Profiles covering the whole of England. They have been produced by Public Health Observatories and will be updated every year.

Liverpool Ward Profiles (http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/council/key-statistics-and-data/ward-profiles/) These show economic and social data about all of Liverpool's 30 wards. Each profile is compared against average Liverpool figures.

UK National Statistics

Department of Health Statistics Section (Statistics at DH) (https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health/about/statistics)

NHS Digital (http://digital.nhs.uk) - this is the website of the national provider of high-quality information, data and IT systems for health and social care.

National Statistics: the official UK statistics site Health and Social Care theme (http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Health+and+Social+Care) includes statistics relating to public health, health services provided by the National Health Service (NHS), social care, and health and safety at work.

NHS performance ratings (http://www.cqc.org.uk/) for 392 trusts are available from the Care Quality Commission website.

PHE Data and Analysis Tools (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/phe-data-and-analysis-tools) a single point of access to data and analysis tools from across Public Health England. This service was previously known as the “data and knowledge gateway”.

Fingertips (https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/) is a web platform that provides easy access to in-depth analysis of a wide range of health and health-related data in thematic profiles, e.g. Marmot indicators and diabetes and cancer services.
International Statistics


**WHOSIS** (http://www.who.int/whosis/) - The Statistical Information Service of the World Health Organization

**Keeping up-to-date**

**Online News services**

**BBC Health News** (http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health/)

**The health news section of the Guardian website** (http://www.theguardian.com/society/health)

**The social care news section of the Guardian website** (http://www.theguardian.com/society/social-care)

**The news section of the Social Care Institute for Excellence's website** (http://www.scie.org.uk/news/index)

**Behind the Headlines** (http://www.nhs.uk/news/Pages/NewsIndex.aspx) aims to provide an unbiased and evidence-based analysis of health stories that make the news.

**Journal alerts**

You can keep up to date with the latest articles published in your favourite journals by setting up a free account with either Browzine (link from our electronic library page) or Journal TOCs (http://www.journaltocs.ac.uk/)

**Contacting Library Services**

You can contact Library Services in a number of ways

- Visit the Hub on the ground floor of the Avril Robarts Library
- Call our central enquiry point on 0151 231 3179
- Visit [https://helpme.ljmu.ac.uk](https://helpme.ljmu.ac.uk) and complete the online form under the Library Help option
- Click on the Ask The Library tab on our web pages and start an online chat with one of our staff

For more detailed subject help, contact your Academic Liaison Librarian:

Rob Caley, r.j.caley@ljmu.ac.uk
0151 231 4025

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