

### Guide for bachelor's thesis

Faculty of Economics

#### UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE

Campus of ...

Faculty of .....

Undergraduate programme in



#### Dissertation title

Supervisor

Professor Name Surname

Dissertation by

Name Surname

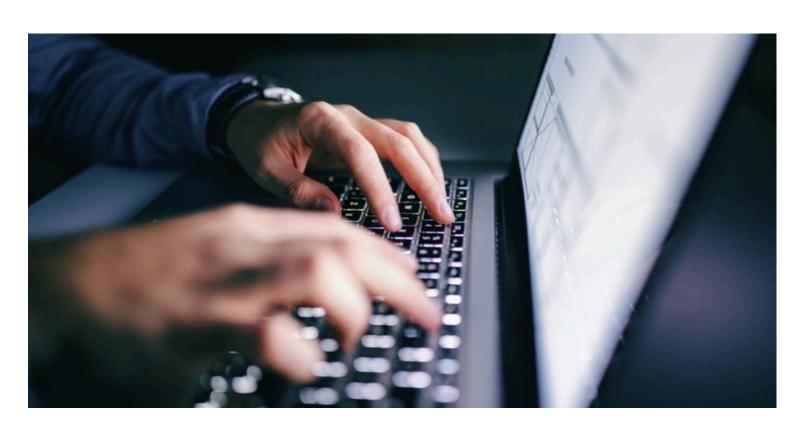
Id Number:

Academic Year XXXX/XXXX

# First steps



- (1) Identify a topic
- (2) Choose the supervisor



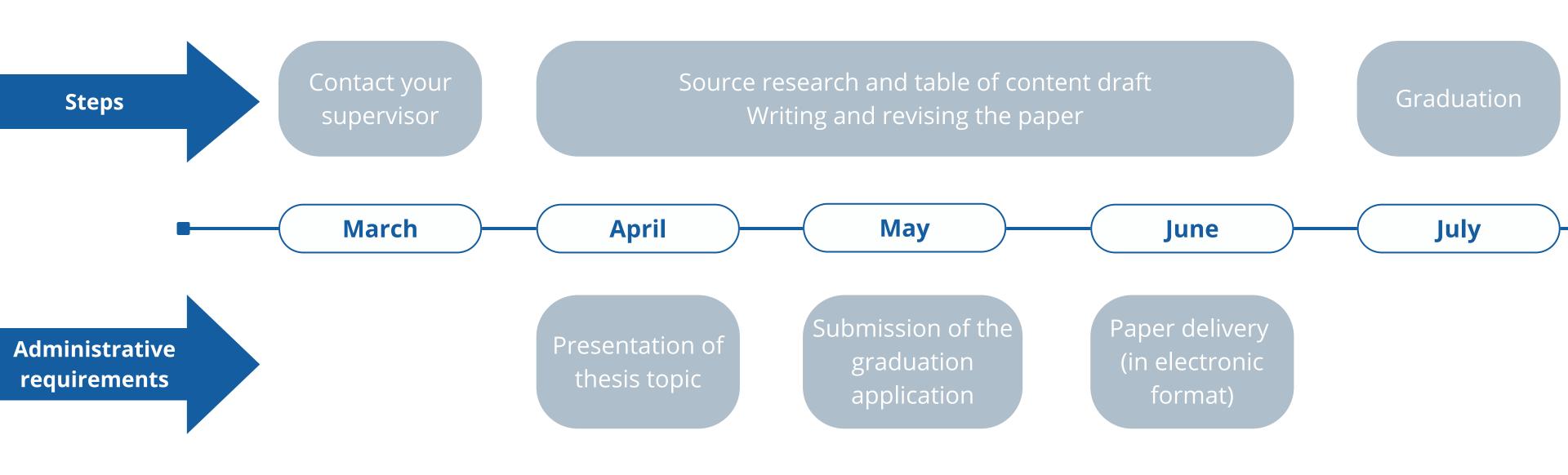
- (3) Get in contact with your supervisor
- (4) Check deadlines and administrative requirements

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# Steps to graduation



Example: July call



# Types of papers



### **Descriptive thesis**

- Qualitative analysis of sources (books or academic journals)
- Literature review and synthesis E.g.: "Circular economy: UE role"

#### **Empirical thesis**

- **Qualitative** and **quantitative** analysis of sources (public data, surveys, and interviews)
- Data analysis and results interpretation E.g.: "The impact of circular economy on the manufacturing sector"

## Thesis structure





Definition of research objectives and framing of the thesis topic

Main body

Summary of main literature insights (and quantitative analysis results, if applicable)

**Conclusions** 

Summary of the thesis content and brief presentation of the results achieved, aligned with the introduction

## Structure scheme



### Subject to agreement with the supervisor

Introduction

Main body

Chapter 1

Paragraph 1.1

Sub-paragraph 1.1.1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Conclusions

Bibliography/sitography (if applicable)
Appendix (if applicable)

## Structure: where to start



(1) Source research

- (2) Content outline (or draft table of contents)
- (3) Drafting the main body of the thesis

**Note:** Respect the deadlines agreed upon with your supervisor

(4) Writing introduction and conclusions

# Page layout



- Cover page: Unicatt template
- Text: justified
- Line spacing: 1,5
- Font: 12
- Upper margin: 3,5 cm
- Lower margin: 2,5 cm
- Left margin: 3,5
- Right margin: 2,5

<u>Click here</u> to access the template on Unicatt webpage in section "Procedures and final examinations"

Subject to agreement with the supervisor

# Bibliographic resources



## **OPAC**

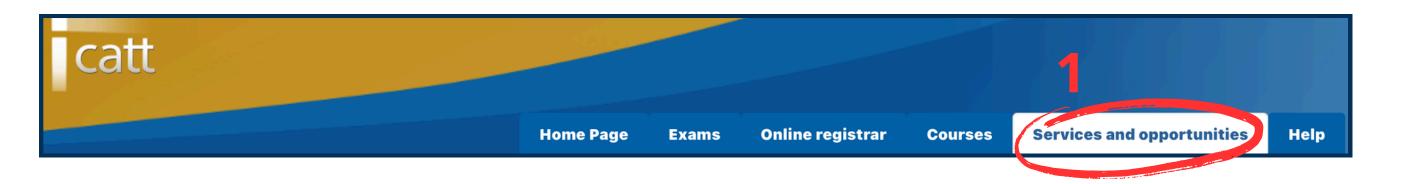




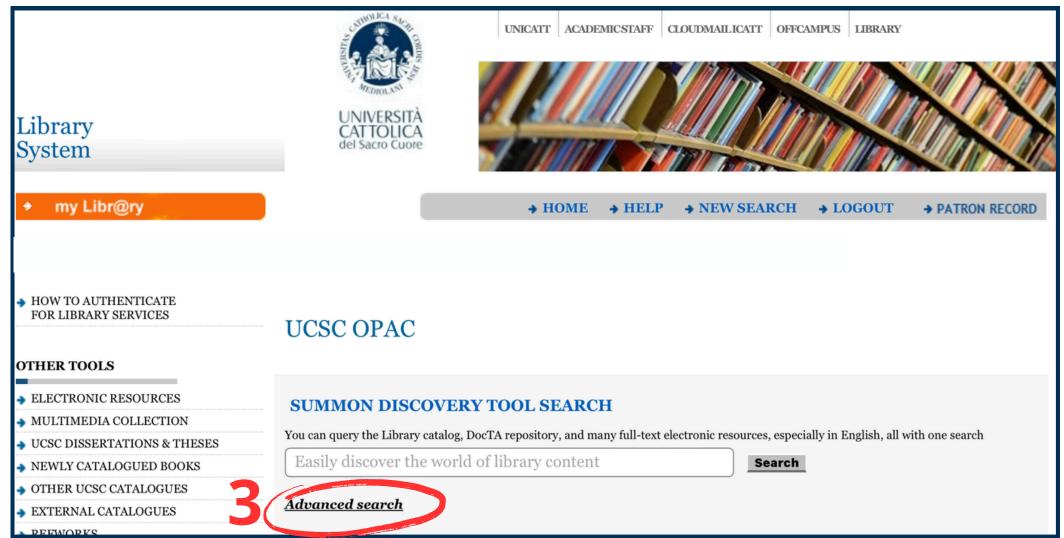
Online public access catalogue

## OPAC









# OPAC



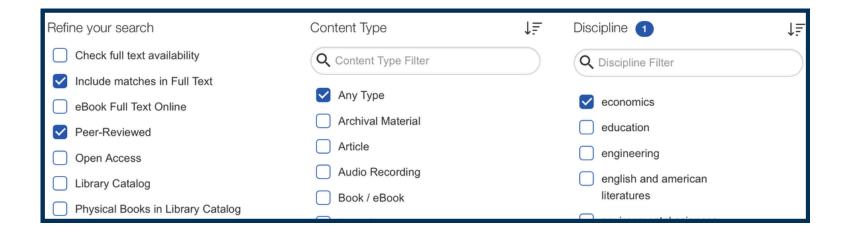
### **Key words**

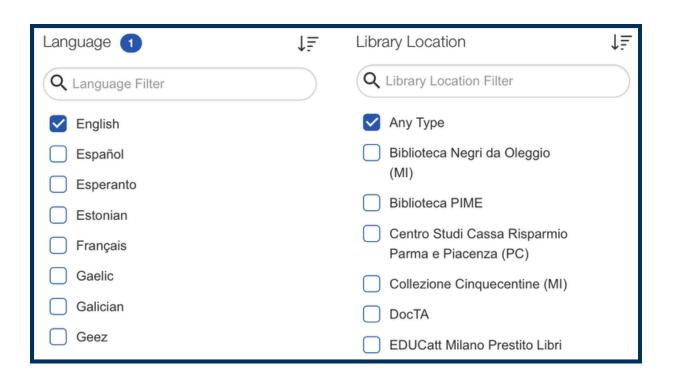


#### **Timeframe**

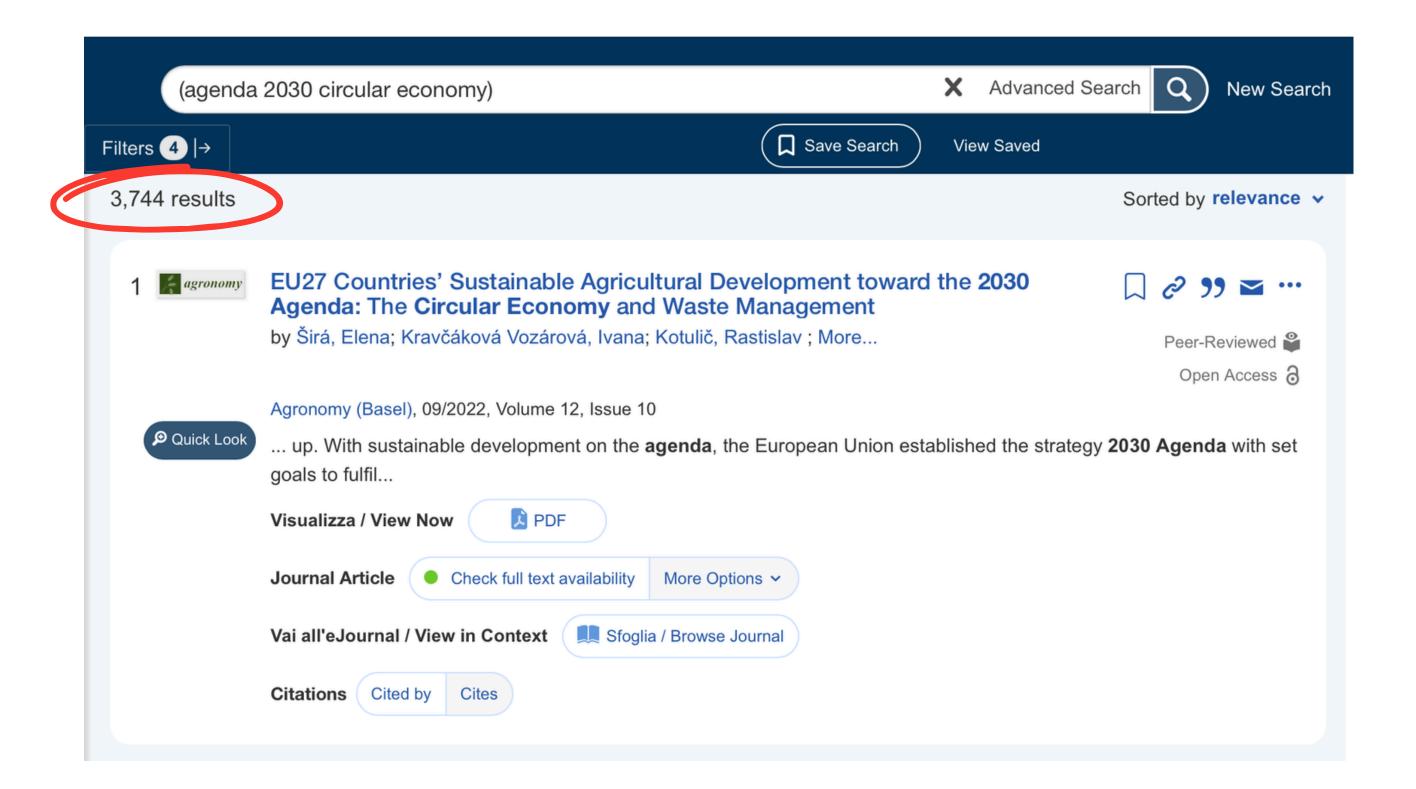


### **Filters**









#### Results

## Source research



## Step 1: read the title of the article





## Step 2: read the abstract —>



The abstract is a concise summary that outlines the objectives, methods, results, and conclusions of the study, allowing readers to quickly assess the relevance of the work.

#### Abstract

An increasing population and increasing industrial demand for resources has created a need to ensure the supply can keep up. With sustainable development on the agenda, the European Union established the strategy 2030 Agenda with set goals to fulfil. Some of those are connected to the principles of the circular economy. This study aimed to identify the state of the circular economy based on the current level of waste management in the agricultural sector of EU27 countries in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The main focus was on the 12th goal of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, for which countries are analyzed according to five indicators. The results showed heterogeneity between EU countries, and while we analyzed this in relation to countries' GDP, no relationship between the agricultural waste management and GDP was found. To confirm and develop the results obtained, we outline possibilities for future research and methodological improvements that will support more robust conclusions, such as expanding the research sample.



## Step 3: read introduction and conclusions

#### 1. Introduction

The world's population growth has led people to think about how to effectively use the resources that are currently available. Now that we are aware of the limited resources, the search for new directions for production is becoming highly important, and sustainability is coming to the fore in various areas of life, whether in the environmental, economic, or social [1] regards. Sustainability concerns all sectors of the economy, including agriculture [2], to which we must pay close attention.

Waste is a particular area of concern, and the foremost problem is dealing with waste. By reusing it through recycling, we can process at least part of the waste materials and use them to our advantage. In this regard, a new direction of the circular economy is coming to the fore.

The circular economy (CE), as a kind of new economic form, is based on the principles of diversity, resilience, and comprehensive thinking. The CE requires an intersection of the biological, technological, and material spheres. It supports a cyclical relationship and the transformation, distribution, utilization, and regeneration of available materials. It must be noted that there is no perfect and closed system that allows every resource to be reused; with notions such as the CE, there are both advantages and limits to their application [3].

#### 4. Conclusions

Overall, the 12th goal of the 2030 Agenda was being met in the countries analyzed up to 2018. The development of the analyzed indicators showed positive trends, such as increasing the energy productivity and decreasing both the volume of chemicals consumed and the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per km from new passenger cars. Countries with the lowest/worst values could be seen to have tried to follow the best countries but faced the difficulties that meant their progress was slower.

The study of Grdic et al. [46] confirmed that realization the idea of a circular economy supports protection of environment, economic well-being and supports sustainable economic growth. The economic decline as a result pandemic COVID\_19 helped the idea of a speeder transition to the concept of sustainable production, distribution and consumption, which is significantly related to the concept of the CE. However, for realization of this transition is necessary to have financial resources that allow easier transition to a new way of doing business. The results of this study showed that countries that are more economically developed and have a stronger environmental awareness have better indicators for the implementation of the CE.

Waste as a result from many human activities is a very crucial issue, regarding with the growth in quantity, but types, too. The problems of waste are not only environmental



If:

Title **V** 

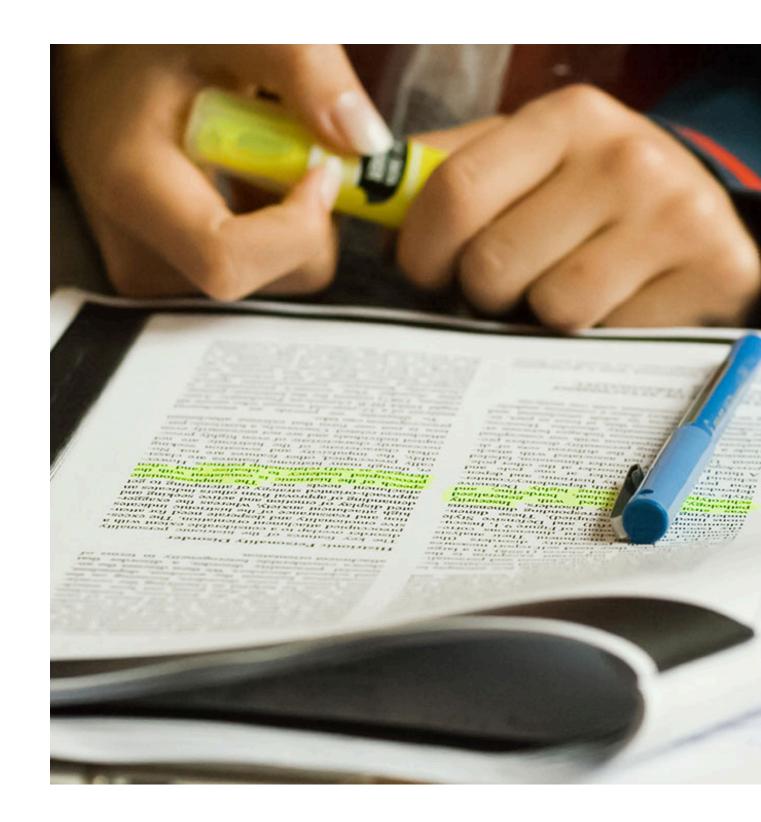
Abstract V

Introduction and conclusions





Step 4: read the paper!



## Footnotes



**Footnotes** provide further insight into a topic.

They <u>should always be referenced</u> in the text with a superscript number in round brackets and numbered sequentially.

#### **Example:**

Since education systems in Europe vary greatly, the classification of job seekers into three levels (high, medium, low) superscript

#### Footnote

(1) The medium level refers to middle-school and high-school qualifications, while the high level includes university degrees, including three-year diplomas and parallel higher education paths, which are common in some European countries. The low level, on the other hand, corresponds to compulsory middle-school education.

Note: subject to agreement with the supervisor

# Graphs and tables



They offer a brief and clear overview of a topic, and are always accompanied by a **number** and a **title**.

Table 1.1. Unemployment rates by educational qualification of adults (ages 30–59), Italy, 2003

Layout

	University	High school	Middle school	Elementary school
Males	2.4	2,8	5.0	7,6
Females	4,7	6,2	11.6	12,9

Source: ISTAT, Labour Force Survey, cited in Reyneri, E., Sociology of the Labour Market, Vol. I, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2005, p. 185.

Text

...as shown in table 1.1.



Avoid using phrases like 'as can be seen in the graph <u>below</u>' or 'as indicated by the table <u>above</u>'

They must be <u>numbered sequentially</u> within each chapter, using a two-part numbering system: the first number refers to the chapter, and the second to the table's order within that chapter

# In-text citations



They serve to reference the sources (books, articles, essays, websites) used in writing the thesis.

The author's name and the year of publication of the book or article should be included in round brackets.

"The modern mind was born alongside the idea that the world can change. Modernity means rejecting the world as it has been until now and deciding to transform it" (Bauman, 2004).



These sources must then be listed in the bibliography at the end of the paper.

Note: subject to agreement with the supervisor

# Example



### Style: APA 7th edition

#### Single author

#### **Two authors**

# Three or more authors

Author's surname and year of publication

Both author's surnames, in the same order as on the paper, separated by '&' or "and" and year of publication

List the first author's surname only, followed by "et al." and year of publication

**Direct citation** 

"..." (Smith, 2013)

"..." (Xi and Carson, 2019)

"..." (Martin et al., 2020)

**Indirect citation** 

Smith (2013) says that...

Xi and Carson (2019) say that...

Martin et al. (2020) say that...

**External voice** 

Research says that... (Smith, 2013)

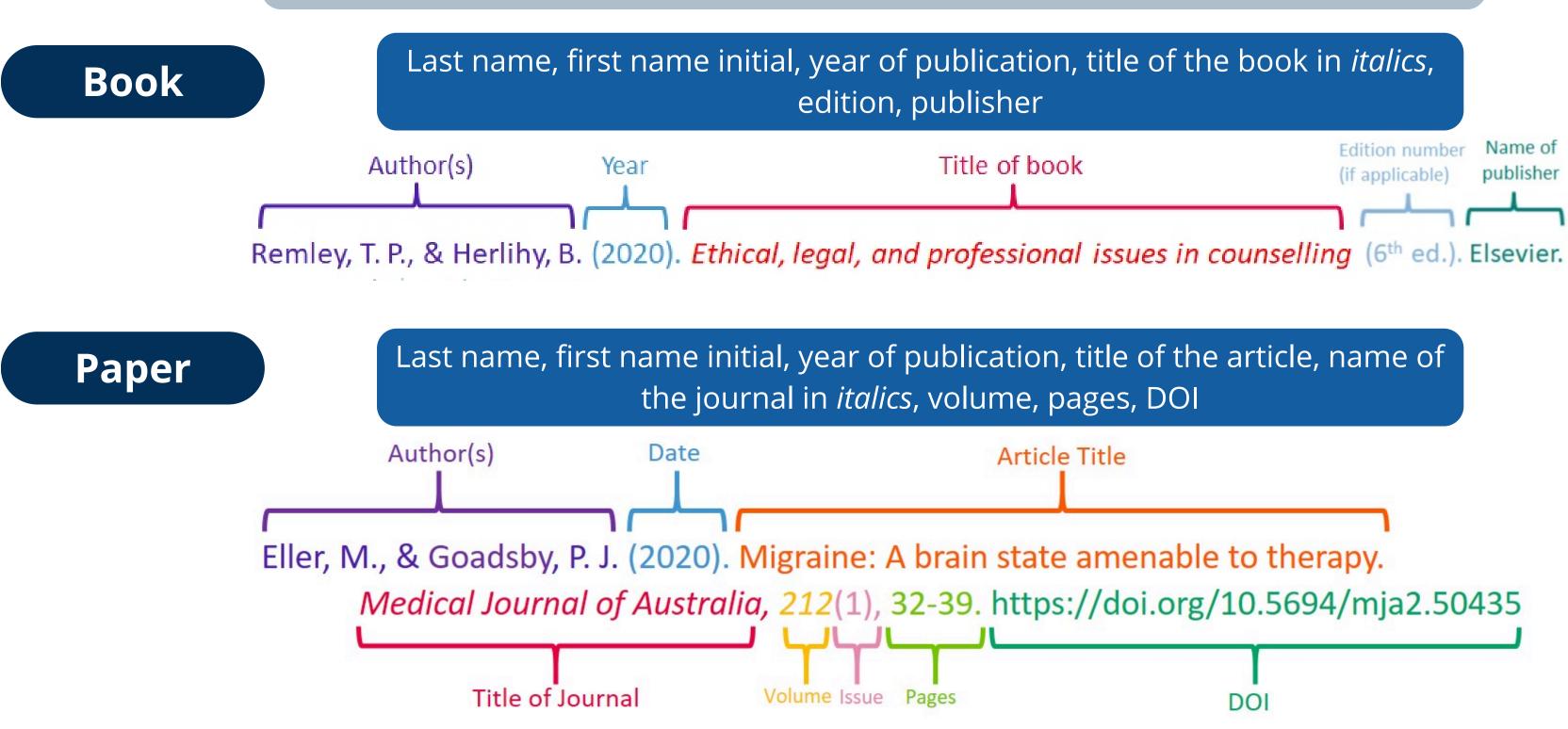
Research says that... (Xi & Carson, 2019)

Research says that... (Martin et al., 2020)

## References



Bibliographic references must be listed in alphabetical order by the author's last name





6 Full Text | Scholarly Journal

EU27 Countries' Sustainable Agricultural Development toward the 2030 Agenda: The Circular Economy and Waste Management



Sometimes it is possible to copy the citation

Širá, Elena; Vozárová, Ivana Kravčáková; Kotulič, Rastislav; Dubravská, Mariana. **Agronomy; Basel** Vol. 12, Iss. 10, (2022): 2270. DOI:10.3390/agronomy12102270



Double-check the citation style

# Referencing

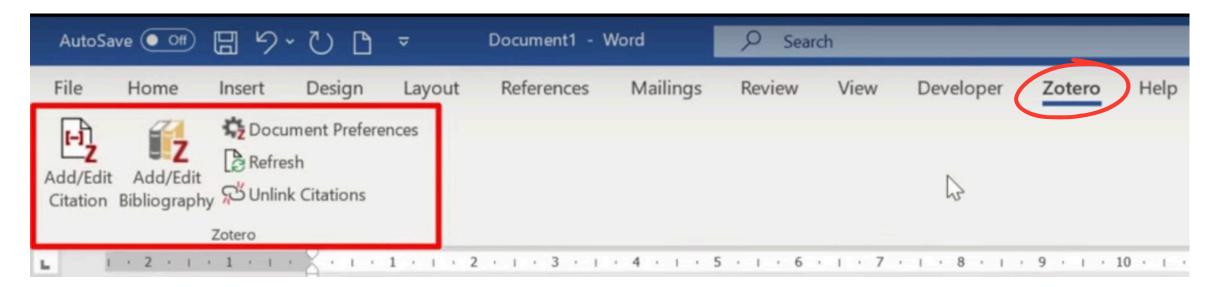






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Ask a librarian

#### biblioteca.reference-mi@unicatt.it



Search the University Catalogue, use databases, e-journals, and e-books, and conduct <u>targeted research</u> in specific disciplinary areas



Additional contacts



Interlibrary services: ill.dd-mi@unicatt.it



Bibliographic information courses: biblioteca.formazione-mi@unicatt.it



Lending and consultation: biblioteca.informazioni-mi@unicatt.it

# Plagiarism and copying



#### **Attention!**



### The thesis is a personal work, make it unique!

Writing a thesis means demonstrating *your own abilities*, not copying those of others.

### Plagiarism is detected!

The University uses advanced software to check the originality of the text.

Plagiarism is against University's rules and carries penalties.

# Good luck!





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