

Orientation

Hi, I am Manon and last year I finished my Master's thesis.
During my studies, I had already followed some library instructions, but I still found it quite difficult to really know where to start.
My first problem was that my subject was not really clear yet.

A fellow student suggested I should use Wikipedia and Google, because he found these useful tools to collect background information.
I found this a useful start, but I could have used a little more help.

I really recommend that you go through this part of the instruction, because it will give you tips to help you collect background information and get a clearer idea of your subject.
After that, you will know if you are ready to continue with the exploration phase or if you still feel the need to talk it over with fellow students or consult your thesis supervisor.

In this part of the instruction you will gain a better understanding of how your subject fits into a broader field of research.
You will also learn how to discover key terms relating to your subject.
And it is also good to know early on which terms are absolutely *not* relevant to your subject.

A final tip: make sure you always take notes during your research!
Write down your key terms and document your results. This way you can always retrace and repeat your steps, make improvements, and you will still know later on where you found useful results.