

Marie Scopes & Katherine Everest  
(Hands on)

'Learning Objects for Information Literacy.'  
Theme: Practical approaches to Information Literacy

**'Skills for Learning' is a databank of generic resources developed by Leeds Metropolitan University to support the learning and teaching of a variety of key skills, including information literacy. These e-learning materials can be used very flexibly and are available both for independent browsing by students and as learning objects for academic colleagues to take, use and contextualise within the curriculum and our virtual learning environment (WebCT). The advantages of using them are that:**

- They are user friendly
- Students can go at their own pace
- They enhance independent learning
- It is possible to use a wide range of resources
- Staff do not have to re-invent the wheel
- They are adaptable to different learning styles

The learning objects enable learning advisers to engage students in developing their own information skills and use them more flexibly within the curriculum. Leeds Met has recently developed an Information Literacy Framework which articulates what information literacy is and how we can integrate it into students' learning. The Framework was developed by learning advisers in response to the growth in the amount and availability of information, the need for information literacy in engaging effectively in independent learning and the great variability in the level of students' information skills. It is based on SCONUL's seven headline information literacy skills and, in a further initiative, Learning Advisers have put together a generic syllabus of learning materials that can be used to develop each of these skills. The learning objects form a major part of this syllabus.

This workshop will demonstrate the 'Information Skills Information Sources' (ISIS) theme within 'Skills for Learning' which was developed collaboratively by library and technical staff. The theme gives a general introduction to information skills including preparing a search strategy, using reference sources, evaluating information sources and organising information. Participants will have "hands-on" time to explore the tutorial animations and other interactive or activity based resources which have been designed to show how information is generated through research and by events and actions, and to help students develop the skills to find and to use the information appropriately in their studies. There will be an opportunity at the end for discussion, sharing of experience and new ideas.