

KAREN FOLEY: The Arts Hub was an online interactive event. And you're about to watch a session from that. But I wanted to explain to you how it all worked.

You're about to see the video stream of the studio. But our audience participated online through chat and through interactive widgets. And those ideas were fed through into the studio from the social media desk. Of course, because you're watching it on catch up, you won't be able to do those activities. But I do hope that you enjoy the discussion that follows.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Hi, and welcome back to the Arts Hub. Well, in our next session, I am joined by the team from the library. And I would like to welcome Katherine Moore and Wendy Chalmers.

Thank you for coming in. We always love our library sessions. And I see you've brought some fabulous props, which is wonderful.

KATHERINE MOORE: We have. We-- you've got new shelves. This-- the last time we were here, this wasn't like this. Nice, though.

KAREN FOLEY: These aren't shelves. This is a cabinet of curiosity.

KATHERINE MOORE: Oh, sorry.

[CHUCKLING]

KAREN FOLEY: Yeah. It's-- yeah, it's-- I can see why you might think that. But no, this is a cabinet of curiosity. And it's this whole idea, really, of in the arts, they used to have these cabinets. And they would bring all these wonderful things to display. And so we have a selection here of beautiful objects.

WENDY CHALMERS: I love the shoes.

KAREN FOLEY: Thank you, yeah. [LAUGHS] They're nice, aren't they? So we're surrounded by beautiful-- actually, it's made it really nice and relaxed. And we've been talking about a lot of these

objects.

But I'm glad you like it. I think it's a fabulous set.

KATHERINE I appreciate the books.

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: Yes, we thought some books were important.

WENDY Yes. Even in this day and age.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: [LAUGHS] So we're going to talk about library resources for arts students. Why is that different, then, from any other students?

WENDY Well, they're focused on that particular area. And we have a range of generic resources in the library. And we have resources which are relevant to the arts and humanities. And we have resources which are relevant to the different disciplines in the arts or relevant to the classical studies, philosophy, history, English, religious studies. They do have a focus for those particular areas.

And there's a huge range of exciting resources there which are all there for students to discover.

KAREN FOLEY: Wonderful. So in the next 20 minutes, we're going to give a whistle-stop tour, really, of all of the resources available from the library for our students. So, Wendy, do you want to talk a little bit about some of the favourite resources then?

WENDY Yes. But just before I start, can I ask the students to let us know if they have any favourite resources? And we'll maybe come back to those later on.

KAREN FOLEY: Oh, OK. So what are your favourite resources? And that can be anything, can't it? Although a lot of students, they will be art students. But any resources that you use that you think are really good that you'd like to share with other people.

WENDY Yeah. That would be really useful for us to have the feedback.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: OK.

WENDY But for me, if we start with classical studies-- so whether it's reading classical Latin or Greek or
CHALMERS: just exploring the classical world-- there are some lovely reference sources, for example, the *Encyclopedia of Ancient History*. So if you want to know more about Pliny or Augustus-- some of the key characters in the classical times-- these are really good resources if you want to find out about places such as the forum or even events, such as particular periods in Roman history. So that's the *Encyclopedia of Ancient History*.

And also the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*. They're really good resources. And they're often used at level 2, level 1. And they're a good introduction to topics. So--

KAREN FOLEY: So how can students-- are you recommending they buy these, then?

WENDY No, no. They're all available from the library website.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: Oh, OK.

WENDY Available at your fingertips. And Katherine will explain later on how you can actually access
CHALMERS: those resources. So they're all online resources.

And the other one, which I have to mention for classical studies, is the Loeb Classical Collection. That's been in existence in print since about 1911. And it's one of the key sources for classical students. It has about 500 different Latin and Greek texts with English translation.

And about two years ago, it was digitised. So it's now available to our students. So if you want to read the works by Pliny, so one of the key historians of the time, or if you do want to read Virgil's *Iliad* in Latin and English, it's all there for students to read.

And you can also search. So if you want to find books which mention particular characters or events from the classical times, there's a little search function. So we were really excited when it became available to our students just about two years ago.

KAREN FOLEY: Wonderful.

WENDY So yeah, those are my favourite from classical studies.

CHALMERS:

KATHERINE So we were talking when we were first planning the session about how we would visualise all

MOORE: our lovely resources. As they're all online, that's kind of difficult.

WENDY Yes.

CHALMERS:

KATHERINE So that was why I just reached over. This is the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, which is one of
MOORE: Wendy's favourite. It's one of the few that we have both online and in print. So I just thought it was worth showing the print edition to show that-- ooh-- we do actually have real books in the library.

KAREN FOLEY: When you hold it like that, you can see the benefit of online. [LAUGHS]

WENDY Yes, definitely.

CHALMERS:

KATHERINE And I'm clearly an online librarian. I don't have shelver's arms.

MOORE:

WENDY You don't have the muscles.

CHALMERS:

KATHERINE No. And so for other online resources, we have a lovely board of, well, sharing some of our
MOORE: favourites, not even all of our favourites. We needed too big a pinboard for that.

But so Loeb is there. And so are others.

WENDY Well--

CHALMERS:

KATHERINE If you...

MOORE:

WENDY My next subject is philosophy. And the one that I'd like to highlight here is the *Routledge*
CHALMERS: *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. And that's a super source. And it's used quite a lot at level 2 and level 2 modules.

So if students come across new philosophers-- on John Locke, David Hume-- they can look up the encyclopaedia. And they'll find a really clear account of them and then some of their ideas. And similarly, if they come across any terms, which you always come across when you're

studying, of empiricism, epistemology-- what does that mean? Go to the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. And that gives you a really clear account-- which I can understand, so it's useful-- of these different concepts and ideas in philosophy.

And you can also browse by different periods. So if you're interested in ancient philosophy or even 18th-century philosophy, you can go to those areas, and by geographic areas, as well. So for example, Chinese philosophy. So it's a good resource for many tastes and topics. So that's my main one for philosophy.

And then we come to history, where there are some really exciting databases. And the first one I'd like to talk about is the Grand Tour. So the Grand Tour was something that the wealthy British gentlemen undertook in the 16th century. They would visit France and Italy to try and then widen their horizons. And time came to the 18th century, some of the lower classes were participating, and even single women were known to participate in the Grand Tour.

So the Grand Tour is a collection of letters, journals, sketches from that time. And it really gives an insight into personal accounts-- a personal view of the 16th, 17th, 18th century. So that is another relatively new database. And it's a popular one. So that's one of my most favourite ones.

So moving on, we also have-- so that gives them sort of personal accounts of the time. We have the Times Digital Archive. So that is reports from the Times, going back to the 1700s. So for example, you're interested in a report from the French Revolution, you could go in and find a report from about 1789 of the French Revolution.

And then I could go on forever here. But I'll just mention House of Commons Parliamentary Papers. So if you are interested in the proceedings of the House of Commons in the 1600s, you'll find records of the debates there. And Empire Online is another one I would like to mention. It's similar to the Grand Tour in that it's a lot of personal accounts-- missionaries' letters, reports from missionaries, official documents around that time.

So you can see, we have a mixture of what we would call primary sources of records written at the time. And they can be the personal type-- the letters, the reports, and the official documents. So these build up a collection of primary sources. So we have these sources.

But also in the library, we have a huge collection of the secondary resources. These are the books-- the ebooks and the journals where historians analyse and discuss the events from the

past, so using these primary sources. And we have a huge collection of ebooks for students to dip into and some very accessible ones. So for example, we have a series of very short introductions. So you can now find 18th century, very short introductions.

So those are my favourite databases from those three areas. That was philosophy, classical studies, and history. So Katherine will tell you a little bit more about--

**KATHERINE
MOORE:**

**WENDY
CHALMERS:**

**KATHERINE
MOORE:** --the sort of history, we have the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, of which I have a full 30 volumes with me. That's not the whole set. There's a whole 60 and then an index because 60 bound volumes wasn't enough. And that's just the 2004 edition.

The thought of just using these fills me with dread. It's a really not brilliant experience to flick through, find the article you want, and then cross-reference it with something else where you can't quite work out how it's been classified, go to the shelf, pick up the other, again, huge book, and then put it down to where you're studying and read-- rubbish. So thankfully, we have this online as, you know, all the resources that we talk about today.

And that just makes it so much easier to use in terms of you search for how you think something has been classified. And if you haven't quite got it right, you'll get suggestions of how it has been classified. And it's a simple click. You know, it's just an internet connection you need, not massive biceps or to be in the place where this reference-only thing is. So that's a lovely resource for history but also just a massive bonus of studying online in that it tends to be so much easier to access and get your resources.

**WENDY
CHALMERS:** I love that resource. There's so many biographies-- about 60,000 people going back to Roman times, people who have influenced British culture. So if you are, you can find all the British prime ministers. You can find people who've participated in the Battle of Agincourt, all sorts of different topics and themes. So really, really lovely resource.

KAREN FOLEY: And we asked our students earlier-- and I'd like to just briefly pop over to HJ and Rachel to see what's happening on the social media desk.

HJ: Well, we're just sharing a lot--

RACHEL: We're back.

HJ: Oh, yes. We're finally back.

RACHEL: Bump.

[CHUCKLING]

HJ: It is a big desk. So it does get quite lonely. So I'm glad Rachel's back here.

RACHEL: I was expecting there to be like a bit of tumbleweed, just rolling, going across.

HJ: But we were talking earlier about how on the last Student Hub we learnt that the library has a great music collection, as well, which we were really excited about.

RACHEL: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

HJ: But apparently, there's a song that we can find about us reuniting on this desk. What was it?

RACHEL: Oh, well, I don't feel-- we're not going to sing it, are we? It was Jason and Kylie, "Now we're back together," basically.

[LAUGHTER]

At least, that was what it is on the desk. But we're looking-- we love the library, don't we? We're always hanging around at the library like geeks. But we've also-- Lucy said, and we've had it in the chat, as well, haven't we, in the comments, Lucy said, I like the fact that we have the online library. You can be confident that reference materials are as up to date as possible, which is really good as being a student, isn't it? Because reference in time, it's like--

HJ: It's always a struggle, isn't it? But, like, we're-- pfft. Well, we said it's always a struggle, didn't we? But the library also has fantastic, like, one page of how to do referencing, as well, which is really nice to follow.

RACHEL: Yeah, yeah.

HJ: So I use that probably a lot of times. I got up their page views on that one, definitely, while I was studying.

RACHEL: Yeah, the referencing. Well, that's the thing is it's so-- it's like a vault, isn't it? You know, there's an online library-- a physical library is a vault of information. It's like a little treasure chest-- well, like treasure chest on the set. Is that the OU library?

[LAUGHTER]

And they're-- the librarians are here, obviously. And one more comment before we take up all the time. Owen said, I didn't know the materials were available in the library. That's really useful. I won't have to rely on the website that he uses to access the material.

So that's been really good. We've got another student who now can get into the library--

HJ: Definitely.

RACHEL: --and help them with their studies.

HJ: We always get so much great stuff from the library. So--

RACHEL: We do.

HJ: Yes.

RACHEL: Well, where's your library card?

HJ: Oh, yes. I actually have an OU library card, as well, which is useful.

RACHEL: Always one, isn't there?

HJ: Well, yeah.

RACHEL: But--

HJ: Yeah.

RACHEL: But we're going to generate some more chat from this. And hopefully, we'll have time for you to come back to us before the end of the session if--

KAREN FOLEY: Well, I don't know about that because we're running out of time, as we--

[GROANS]

--as we normally do. I know, I know. But I was thinking, actually, we've got a great video that

we showed yesterday, which is a little tour of the library. And I know that people have found that really useful. So at some point, we'll try and dig that out so we can show it again because I know people really like seeing what's actually happening--

WENDY

See the people behind the scenes.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY:

--in the library and where you keep both these and also a lot of supports that the library offers elsewhere. And also, yesterday's session was very useful because you've come up with so many ideas which could lead to a lot of procrastination. And yesterday's session was all about trying to manage some of those news feeds and manage some of those sources so that we didn't get too sidetracked but were able to be mindful of what was useful.

And so I think the sources that you've actually given in terms of resources for students have been really useful. And we've got links to those on the resources page of the website. So if there has been something, do have a flick through that.

It's back on the Student Hub Live website. And you'll see the Resources tab. And then there's lots of interesting resources from the library team there. So how do people then access all of this?

KATHERINE

MOORE:

OK. So we haven't quite managed to cover all the areas within the arts. But that's fine. We talk a lot about resources. We get far too excited.

So if you are studying, say, music or interested in studying music or religious studies or something that we haven't covered and are going, oh, how annoying, please don't worry. On the library website, there is a group of pages called Selected Resources for Your Study. And what that does is it gives you a list of subjects to choose from, which will include things like art history, et cetera, religious studies.

Choose the one you're interested in. And then all you need to do is choose a subtopic within that. And you'll get a list of relevant ebooks and databases and journals. And that's a really great way, if you're unsure what's out there for your subject or if you find yourself doing some cross-disciplinary work and have-- you've always considered yourself a music student but actually need to go and look at some literature, it can be a really easy way into our library resources.

WENDY There's some beautiful databases related to art history-- some beautiful image databases.

CHALMERS: British Education, for example, is Oxford Art Online, you were mentioning to me earlier.

KATHERINE Yes.

MOORE:

WENDY They are lovely.

CHALMERS:

KATHERINE Yeah, and it's sister site, Oxford Music Online-- again, brilliant for both art and music students.

MOORE: Really great resources. So but in terms of actually the nuts and bolts of how to use the library, if students are interested in that, on Wednesday, I am giving a evening training session at 7:00--

KAREN FOLEY: That's this Wednesday.

KATHERINE --in the evening-- this Wednesday coming up-- about--

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: What date will that be then?

KATHERINE --the sessions. I don't know. It's Wednesday.

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: Let's find out. Anybody actually--

WENDY It's the 6th.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: Our audience are really good at this.

WENDY It must be the--

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: No, because it's--

WENDY Oh, it's past.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: Can someone tell us what the date is on Wednesday because this is all available on catch up.

And so as we've got people watching live, many people--

KATHERINE Yes.

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: --will be in bed still.

KATHERINE I'm sorry.

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: I know.

KATHERINE And that's normally me. So I really should have the actual date written down.

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: And so we should write the date because we could cause mass confusion otherwise. So yeah.

WENDY Must be the 15th.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY: Find out what the date is on Wednesday. Yeah, 15.

KATHERINE Yes. And it is on the page that's got all the resources for this session on the--

MOORE:

KAREN FOLEY: Brilliant.

KATHERINE [SNORTS] Because it would have to be somewhere. But that we'll talk about, actually

MOORE: introducing the library and the nuts and bolts of how to use it.

KAREN FOLEY: Brilliant. Absolutely fantastic. Well, thank you both so much. And while so much is in the module-- and I know that in particular, the arts, all of these primary sources in terms of how things look, looking through old books-- you know, they all have their place. But searching is something quite different.

And you've come up with such a good range of things that will supplement that module material. And I guess for students who may be having a bit of a break over summer, these are some of the activities that they might be able to engage with to really nourish their interest in certain areas or to find out a little bit more about things.

**KATHERINE
MOORE:**

I also think if you're unsure what sort of area within the arts you want to go into, then having a look through the library and going, oh, actually I've spent two hours just looking through databases on literary criticism, you probably want to go down the literature line. If you have lost yourself in any of the history databases, then history is going to be what you want to study.

Just because I've mentioned literature, I studied literature when I was doing my undergraduate. And I-- it's awful to admit as a librarian, but I was terrible at searching. And I now find that using databases as a librarian, so many of them have helpful things within them.

So my favourite is Artemis, which has a brilliant topic finder built within it. And it's just the sort of thing that you don't get in print resources because you have to have their-- they're made with shelf space in mind. So any of that extra stuff just gets taken out. Where there is online databases, you have the space to put it back in and just make things so much more user-friendly.

KAREN FOLEY:

Well, thank you both so much for coming. And now it's been a really, really useful session.

WENDY

Thank you.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY:

We've got the link to your session on Wednesday available on the Resources page of the website. So do check that out. It will tell you all about it there.

And we're out of time as usual. So Wendy and Katherine, thank you for coming--

WENDY

Thank you.

CHALMERS:

KAREN FOLEY:

--and representing the library and for telling us all about these fantastic resources. Next, we have an audio break. We're going to be setting up for the boxing match. And so we're going to have an audio, which will be about eight minutes or so.

Grab yourself a cup of tea while we prepare for that. I'm sure everything will be fine. And see you very soon.

[MUSIC PLAYING]