

## Reference Software Workshop

### ***Introduction***

These tools have the potential to make research easier for you. Reference software is sometimes called citation management tools or bibliographic software. Those names give you some idea of what this software can do. It allows you to collect and organize bibliographic references, such as citations for books, articles, and Web sites from library and online databases. It then works with word processors to insert properly formatted citations into a paper and create a properly formatted bibliography. Recent developments allow you to take notes within some of the software as well, and also have introduced a social media component, so that you can follow other scholars work, and they can follow yours, much like Academia.edu.

There actually are quite a few of these resources out there, but this workshop covers three in particular: Endnote Web, Mendeley, and Zotero. They each require you to set up accounts. (The workshop at this point consisted of tutorials demonstrating one main step in each resource).

### ***More Specific Information about Each Account and a Comparison***

What follows is a feature by feature comparison of this software that should answer most questions you might have about the differences.

As you look over this comparison, you'll see that these are all fairly similar. Which one you choose often comes down to a matter of personal preference. One thing to keep in mind is that the barriers between these resources are very porous. This serves two purposes. The primary one is that if you need to share information with another person who uses different reference software, it should be very easy to do. The other purpose is that if you want to take advantage of a feature that is not in your favorite software, you can easily export information to other software to use those features.

Here's another word of advice, something that you can do in many of the databases, as well as Google Scholar, and in some of these resources. If you ever have a very specific topic or a specific author that you are researching and want to track closely, one of the best things you can do is set up an RSS Feed. These have been around for a while in the surface web, but their use in the deep web is even more powerful.

### Comparison of Endnote Web, Zotero, Mendeley

	Endnote Web	Zotero	Mendeley
<b>Basics</b>			
Where do I find it?	In our ISI database or <a href="http://www.myendnoteweb.com">www.myendnoteweb.com</a>	<a href="http://www.zotero.org">www.zotero.org</a>	<a href="http://www.mendeley.com">www.mendeley.com</a>
Where can I use it?	Anywhere you can access the web.	On the Firefox browser with Zotero extension installed. Saved citations & files may be accessed from anywhere.	Software client on your personal computer, and access Web account anywhere.
Does it cost anything?	No (campus site license)	No (costs for upgraded storage)	No (costs for upgraded storage, costs for private groups - one private group of 3 members free)
Where are my references stored?	Remotely, on the web	Locally, on your computer. Backup references on web.	Personal computer, and sync/back-up online
What happens when I leave Hillsdale?	Download files as text, then import into another citation management program.	Take your computer with you!	Take your computer with you!
<b>What does this work with?</b>			
PCs and Macs?	Web-based (operating system-independent)	Yes (and Linux)	Yes (and Linux)
If web based, which browsers?	IE, Firefox, Safari	Firefox only	All
Export references directly from major databases to program?	Yes (as a list)	Yes (as a list)	Yes (as a list)
Export	Export records to: -Tab Delimited -BibTeX -EndNote (XML)	Export records to: -Zotero -BibTeX -RIS	Export records to: -BibTeX -EndNote (XML) -RIS

	-RIS -Refer export	-Refer/BibLX	
Search online catalogs and databases directly from program?	Yes (MS Word only)	Automatic capture	Automatic capture
Share data among other citation management programs?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Import pre-existing bibliographies and documents?	No	Yes, multiple file types in Papers2 with auto-extracting of bibliographic information (title, author, etc.)	Yes, just PDFs with auto-extracting of bibliographic information (title, author, etc.)
<b>Bibliographies</b>			
Format citations, footnotes, and bibliographies in Microsoft Word?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Works with other word processors?	OpenOffice	OpenOffice	OpenOffice
Modify and create output styles?	No	Yes, if you know Citation Style Language (CSL)	Yes
Create a bibliography as a file within the citation manager	-HTML -Rich Text Format (RTF) -Plain Text	-HTML -Rich Text Format (RTF) -Open Office -Plain Text	-Word for Windows 2000 or later -Word for Mac 98 or later
<b>Files</b>			
Attach files (PDF, etc.) to references?	No	Yes	Yes
Where are attached files stored?	n/a	Locally and backed up online on Zotero servers; or online with Webdav such as cloudme.com	Locally and backed-up online on Mendeley servers

Search full text of attached articles?	n/a	Yes	Yes
Link to images and other files stored locally?	No	Yes	Yes
Link to PDFs?	-OpenURL compliant (automatic) -Can enter URLs directly -Can link to PDF files on the web -With EN X5 - look at wording	-OpenURL compliant (must configure) -Add attachments -Web snapshots	OpenURL compliant (must configure) -Add attachments -Web snapshots
How much free online storage do I get?	10,000 citations max; no attachments	100 mb on web; unlimited on desktop (size restricted by local storage capacity)	1 gb personal storage on web; 100 mb group storage; unlimited on desktop (size restricted by local storage capacity)
<b>Managing Citations</b>			
Sort capabilities	Author, title, or year	Any information categories	Any information categories
Field search	Yes, by author	Yes, by any field	Yes, by author, title, publication names, year & notes
Advanced search	No	Yes. All fields	No
<b>Collaboration</b>			
Can groups access for editing and modifying?	Yes--groups at Hillsdale should be able to create a shared account	Yes -create public and private groups -Automatic synchronization of collections among multiple computers	Yes -public and private groups with automatic synchronization of collections among multiple computers -one private group of 3 members free
Share your references publicly?	No	Yes	Yes
Is there read-only	Yes (Read-only share	No	No

capability?	“group” with anyone who has an Endnote Web account)		
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Unique features?	Firefox toolbar saves online references directly into your library	-“Senses” bibliographic info on a web page and imports data and pdf -Screenshots of web pages	-Auto-detect when new files are added to your desktop -View aggregate statistics of journals and papers -User profiles
Retrieve PDF citation data?	No	Queries Google Scholar database for matches. Mixed success	Queries PubMed database for matches. Mixed success
Add notes to PDFs	No	Yes	Yes
Mobile device application?	No	Store your collection on the Zotero server and use your browser to view your collection.	IPad, smart phones
Screen capture web page content (blogs, streaming video, etc.)	No	Yes	Yes
RSS Feeds	No	Yes	No
Additional help?	<a href="http://www.myendnoteweb.com/help/ENW/help.htm">www.myendnoteweb.com/help/ENW/help.htm</a>	<a href="http://www.zotero.org/support/">www.zotero.org/support/</a>	<a href="http://support.mendelley.com/">http://support.mendelley.com/</a>

Sources:

[Citation Managers: Comparison of Features](#) from University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries

2011 version of [Comparison of Citation Management Software](#) from Cornell University Citation Management Committee