

Materials Science & Engineering New Graduate Student Checklist

<http://ucsd.libguides.com/matsci>

<http://library.ucsd.edu>

Week One:

- ☒ Set up your off-campus access (Proxy and/or VPN) for the Library's licensed electronic resources, including the databases, ebooks, and journals.
- ☒ Create a PIN to access your Library catalog account online to check due dates, recall and renew books.
- ☒ Set up your SciFinder account, and (if needed) download ChemDraw.

Week Two and Beyond:

- ☒ Use the Library catalog (Roger) and the other catalogs to find books relevant to your research, as well as reference works like encyclopedias to find background information for new topics.
- ☒ Select the appropriate databases for your discipline, and search them effectively and efficiently to find recent research in your field in journal articles, conference papers, patents, etc.
- ☒ Request materials that are not immediately available, such as checked out books, print-only items at the Annex, and books/journal articles not owned by the Library.
- ☒ Locate information about substances and materials relevant to your research, such as standards, physical property data, prices, safety information, and chemical reactions.
- ☒ Keep current on new research through database/publisher email alerts, RSS feeds, Twitter, etc. Set up a BrowZine account to monitor tables of contents and read articles in relevant scholarly journals on your mobile device or web browser (<http://ucsd.libguides.com/browzine>).
- ☒ Manage the citations for the books and articles you do find with EndNote, Mendeley, or another bibliographic management tool.
- ☒ Locate additional resources to support your development as a scientist and researcher: communicating (written/oral) and presenting your research, teaching, teamwork and interpersonal skills, research ethics, data management, authors' rights, job seeking skills (including company/industry information) and more.