

Scanning past projects within your university or college can be a useful way of generating ideas. A risk of relying too heavily on previous research and doing little original research to advance it; and settling on a dissertation or report that was originally weak in terms of topic choice, execution or some other criterion (to assist with this aspect, it may be possible to find out how 'good' such pieces of work were by talking to tutors). Riley et al. (2000: 32) highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of referring to previous projects:

- o Advantages