Research & College Libraries

Shayé F. Crews, B.S.Ed.
Student Success Center
Self-Assessment

If you checked seven or fewer items, then you will benefit the most from this seminar!
What *is* Research?

- Some of the steps you will go through in the name of research may turn out *not* to be research after all!
- Can *you* tell the difference?
- What kind of research are you good at?
What *is* Research?

1) Not Research
2) Not Research
3) Not Research
4) Not Research
5) Research
Information VS Understanding

• **Galloping New Ignorance** – affects persons of influence, decision makers, and even people who control the destinies of school, corporations, and governments. GNI manipulates smart people into thinking that they know something, when in fact they do not.

• **“Abundance Shock”** – the realization that those 12,456 hits on the topic of fossil fuels is totally unsorted.
The most difficult thing about doing research for a class assignment is to continue looking for sources when you can’t seem to find any pertaining to your topic. I had to do a literature review and there were not a lot of articles on my topic. I had to keep looking online, in my school library, and I even conducted interviews as a way to get more sources. I am always hesitant to use Internet articles because I don’t know how credible they are. School libraries usually have databases with credible journal articles.

~ Haley T.
Let’s Go Electronic

- World Wide Web
- Online Periodical Databases
- Online Catalogs
World Wide Web

• Associations
  • Examples –

‘Speech association’ : American Speech-Language & Hearing Association

‘Deaf association’ : National Association of the Deaf

‘Smoking Association’ : American Lung Association

‘Little People Association’ : Little People of America
Online Catalog & Online Index

• **Catalogs** –
  • tell you what books, magazines, newspapers, videos, and other materials our library owns.
  • GIL @ VSU
  • GIL Universal Catalog

• **Indexes** –
  • allow you to search for articles within periodicals such as newspapers, magazines, journals, or even book chapters
  • GALILEO – password required!!
1. Write out your topic or problem as a statement or question.
   • “The excessive consumption of alcohol does have an effect on speech rate.”

2. Write down several terms or synonyms for your topic.
   • Alcohol Consumption – Inebriated, Intoxicated, Soused, Tipsy…
   • Speech Rate – Prosody, Intonation, Diadochokinetic Abilities, …
Electronic Resources
The Savvy User

3. Select the correct database for your particular subject or topic.

4. After you scan several entries, decide if you need to limit your search.
   - Limiters – the date, language, journal name, full-text, whether or not its peer-reviewed, etc.
5. Understand Boolean operators.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This setting...</th>
<th>...would find:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AND</strong></td>
<td>results from <strong>both</strong> (or <strong>all</strong>) of the input boxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
<td>results from <strong>any</strong> of the input boxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOT</strong></td>
<td>results that <strong>exclude</strong> the terms entered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Check your library’s electronic resource page to see what else is available to you online.

- **Books & More ...**
- **Articles & More ...**
- **Subject Links & More ...**
- **Archives**
- **Government Documents**
Ask a Librarian!

• Librarians Thrive on Helping You
• Contact
  • telephone,
  • e-mail, or
  • real time chat.
• What have you done so far?
Helpful Links

- **Odum Library**
  - Books & More – [https://gil-odum.valdosta.edu/](https://gil-odum.valdosta.edu/)
  - Ask a Librarian – [http://books.valdosta.edu/ask.html](http://books.valdosta.edu/ask.html)

- **Galileo**
  - Main Page – [http://books.valdosta.edu/gal1.html](http://books.valdosta.edu/gal1.html)
  - Galileo Password – [https://gil-odum.valdosta.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=REQNOBIB](https://gil-odum.valdosta.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=REQNOBIB)
Helpful Links

- VSU Library Instruction Services – [http://books.valdosta.edu/ref/bi/instruct.htm](http://books.valdosta.edu/ref/bi/instruct.htm)