The University Library: Supporting (And Simplifying!) Your Research Needs

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Have you wondered…?

- Why you can’t find information on your topic from your go-to sources?
- Where you may find reliable information for your topic or research area?
- How can you easily but properly cite your sources?
- Where to go for help?
Researchers work in many ways...but all need to gather and organize their information.
Outcomes

- Know that a librarian is there to help you
- Know what type of information source you should use
- Find subject-specific and freely-available resources
- Learn and understand ways to maximize your research time with advanced search strategies
- Consider basics on scholarly manuscript preparation, specifically focusing on tools to keep your research organized and cited correctly in your work
Knowing Your Librarian

Each institution has subject specialists who collect materials and are experts in finding information in various disciplines.

- Barry University - http://www.barry.edu/libraryservices/resources/databaseSubject.htm
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - http://library.erau.edu/worldwide/help/index.html#self
- Florida A&M University - http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?library&SubjectGuides
- Florida Atlantic University - http://libguides.fau.edu/
- Florida Gulf Coast University - http://fgcu.libguides.com/
- Florida Institute of Technology - http://libguides.lib.fit.edu/
- Florida State College at Jacksonville - http://www.fscj.edu/mydegree/library-learning-commons/
Knowing Your Librarian

- Stetson University - http://www2.stetson.edu/library/databases_subject.php
- University of Central Florida - http://libguides.lib.ucf.edu/
- University of Florida - http://apps.uflib.ufl.edu/staffdir/SubjectSpecialist.aspx
- University of North Florida - http://www.unf.edu/library/guides/subjectguides.html
- University of South Florida - http://guides.lib.usf.edu/subjectguides
- University of Tampa - http://utopia.ut.edu/subject.htm
- University of West Florida - http://library.uwf.edu/Research/Guides/
Library Catalogs, Google, Databases and Google Scholar, Oh My!

- Conducting background research and figuring out your scope:
  - **Library catalog:** Books, multimedia, government documents, institutional documents
  - **Google:** Association sites, blogs, wikis
  - Openly available

- Delving deeper into the literature and finding current resources:
  - **Article Databases:** Newspapers, magazines, trade and peer reviewed journals, government documents, association reports, statistical information
  - **Google Scholar:** Peer reviewed journals and grey literature
  - Multidisciplinary and subject oriented
  - Openly available and subscription-based
Wait a Second...What?
Understanding Peer Review

Most scientists regarded the new streamlined peer-review process as ‘quite an improvement.’
Identifying Publication Types

Ulrich's Web™ is the authoritative source of bibliographic and publisher information on more than 300,000 periodicals of all types—academic and scholarly journals, open-access, peer-reviewed titles, popular magazines, newspapers, newsletters, etc. And, it's easy to use!

Reenergised in print and online and now even easier to navigate.

authors & referees

about peer review

The Nature journals are appreciative of their peer-reviewers, of whom there are many tens of thousands. It is only by collaboration with our reviewers that editors can ensure that the manuscripts we publish are among the most important in their discipline of scientific research. We appreciate the time that referees devote to assessing the manuscripts we send them, which helps ensure that Nature journals publish only material of the very highest quality. In
Searching Strategies

- Combine terms: a look at Boolean searching

- Use keywords to describe your topic or controlled vocabularies (standard terms, sometimes jargon)

- Use featured database functions
  - Known-item (fielded) searching
  - Truncation/wildcards
  - Phrase searching
Boolean Search Terms

- **AND** – includes ALL terms
  - Miami AND dolphins

- **OR** – includes ANY term
  - dolphins OR porpoise

- **NOT** – does NOT include the term
  - Miami NOT football
Boolean Searching

So, what if we nested terms?

Example: Florida **AND** Gators **NOT** University

Resources that include *florida* and *gators* but excludes any that have both those terms with the word *university*
Keywords

- A set of preferred terms used to describe a concept within a research area

  Examples: “drug delivery” vs. “drug application”
  “smooth flow” vs. “laminar flow”

- Knowing the preferred terms can increase your search accuracy

- How do you discover them? Research!
  - Find a few highly relevant articles and see what terms those papers use
  - Referred to as “keyword, descriptor, controlled vocabulary, subject heading, uncontrolled vocabulary, index terms”
Database Specifics

- Fielded searching – title, abstract, author, etc.
- Truncation and Wildcards
  - *
  - $
  - ?
  - http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/libcheat.html
- Phrase searching – quotes, sometimes w/
  - Works very well in Google and Google Scholar!
  - Example: polyethylene nanorods vs “polyethylene nanorods”
Organizing and Citing

Tools exist for keeping your research organized and cited correctly in your work

- **EndNote** (client and web-based)
  - Integrated with Thompson/ISI databases like Web of Knowledge
- **RefWorks** (web-based)
  - Supported by libraries, publishers and databases
- **Zotero** (browser and web-based)
  - Free and gaining in functionality

*Caveat Emptor!* No database is perfect, no automated process is either.
Trying it out: the Library Catalog

Option 1: Search for words

AND

Limit your search further by:
- Location: ALL
- Format: ALL
- Language: ALL
- Published from (year): to:

Option 2: Boolean Searching:

Use OR, NOT between words; AND is assumed. Use parentheses for nested terms and quotations for phrases: "united states" "finance history"

Search Boolean

Option 3: Search lists of titles, call numbers, etc.

This link will take you to the previous catalog.
Trying it Out: Google Scholar

Stand on the shoulders of giants
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http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/educ/mno/cur.pdf

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