Information Resources
AFRS 151

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Think outside the box.
Contents:

- evaluate sources
- topic refinement and research vocabulary
- locate and manage sources
- useful sources for AFRS 151
- create and manage citations

Supplements

- links to services
- links to assistance
Evaluating Resources

Essential questions to ask regarding the reliability of a resource:

- Who created the resource?
- What is the experience or qualifications of the author?
- Is the resource based on fact, opinion or propaganda?
- Does the resource express a particular bias or agenda?
- Does the resource list sources to support its statements (e.g. works cited list)?
- Has the resource been examined prior to publication, such as book reviews, an editor or peer-review (panel of experts)?

Additional info  Note: To see if a journal is peer-reviewed, see Ulrichs Web Global Serials Directory
Refine your topic – a review

- Make broad topics more focused
- Topical focus makes research manageable
- A focused topic informs what (and how) resources are used
  - Very recent topics ➔ newspapers, magazines, Websites
  - Established topics ➔ books, journals, films

**Example: Refine topic and target resources**
1. Broad Topic = Media
2. Narrower Topic = Violence in the media
3. Focused Topic = Media violence and children

*Using your topic terms, consider synonyms or related terms to create your SEARCH VOCABULARY*

Additional info
# Limiting and expanding searches

## Text Methods

- **Boolean Operators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boolean Operator</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
<td>expands your search results to include those that have EITHER of two similar terms. Use <strong>OR</strong> to increase your number of results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AND</strong></td>
<td>reduces the number of results by requiring that two terms appear together in a resource in order to be listed within the results. Use <strong>AND</strong> to filter out irrelevant results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOT</strong></td>
<td>filters out results for terms that are commonly associated. Use <strong>NOT</strong> with caution as you may unwittingly remove results you may otherwise want.</td>
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[Additional info]
Locate and manage resources
Oviatt Library Portal

OneSearch retrieves most types of resources (books, articles and more) in a single search. This eliminates having to search across many collections independently.

Watch video tutorial

Alternative independent search of books, journals, and audio/video resources

Search archival collections, Finding Aids Database (FAD) and Digital Collections of the Oviatt Library and local archival materials

Search the CSUN Institutional Repository of faculty, student and departmental works
Limiting and sorting searches

OneSearch Interface method – BOOKS AND MEDIA

Select from lists to limit results

Displays the number of resources for each category

You can save resource records to revisit later. Be sure to login (upper right) to save permanently.
Limiting and sorting searches
OneSearch Interface method – ARTICLES

- Refine your search
  - Scholarly only
  - Full-text only
  - Add results beyond the library's collection
- Format
  - Any
  - Journal Article (100,630)
  - Book Review (13,242)
  - Dissertation (12,519)
  - Trade Publication Article (1,573)
  - Report (977)
  - Newsletter (439)
  - Conference Proceeding (197)
- Topics
  - Any
  - social sciences (9,694)
  - psychology (6,784)
  - education (6,564)
  - women (6,531)
  - violence (6,250)
  - sociology (6,087)

Results 1-10 of 125,199

We found a couple of specialized databases that might help you.
- Studies on Women and Gender Abstracts
- International Political Science Abstracts

Media Violence and Children
- Journal Article Peer Reviewed
  
  Presents the results of the UNESCO global study on media violence and children which was conducted between 1996 and 1997. Highlights include the role of the media, media heroes as role models, media violence and aggression, differences by gender, rural versus urban environments, the pervasiveness of . . .

- By: Groebel, Jo
- Year: 1998
- Published in: Educational Media International

- Children and Media Violence
  - Book Review Peer Reviewed
  
  By: Bryant, Jennings
  - Year: 1999
  - Published in: Aggressive Behavior
Limiting and expanding searches
Search Engine Methods

Try advanced searches to locate relevant subjects

Dropdown menus allow for searching specific fields like subject, author or title of a work

For personal names as subjects, use last name first

Use boolean operators to your advantage
Useful Resources (for AFRS 151)

- Africana Studies - Subject Guide

- Reference
  - African Americans -- Encyclopedias
  - Gale Virtual Reference (all publications)
  - Online General Reference (general)

- Suggested Subjects (books & media)
  - s: (“african American” OR black) and s: (rhetoric)
  - s: (“Speeches, etc. -- African American Authors”)
  - s: (“public speaking”)
  - s: (presentations)
  - s: (“oral communication”)
Useful Resources (for AFRS 151)

- Suggested Databases:
  - Great Speeches Video Series
  - Literature Resource Center (biographies, criticism, primary sources)
  - Black Studies Center
  - Ethnic NewsWatch

- Primary Sources:
  - Bradley Center African American Photographs
  - Slavery and the Law

Guide to Finding and Using Images Online
Citing Sources – a review

- Use source citations to:
  - avoid plagiarism
  - demonstrate a strong understanding of the topic
  - strategically support your argument (stronger case)
  - allow readers to trace your line of reasoning
Create and manage citations

- Use the MLA, APA, Chicago and other style guides from the library Website to format and check your citations (in text and works cited) for any media type.

- Citations for books, audio/video and articles are located to the right of each record view for a selected resource.

Example citations from record view
Manage resources and citations

- Most article databases have tools to allow you to save or email a citation. Try the following locations on the database Web page:

  - Upper right or left corner
  - Directly above the article
  - Right or Left toolbars

- Citation Management & Formatting
  - EndNote Web access for students
  - Alternatively, Zotero includes a plug-in integrated with Firefox browsers
The Oviatt Library offers these additional services:

- Borrow and Renew
- Interlibrary Loan
- Course Reserves
- Computers and Laptops
- Imaging, Photocopying and Printing
- Study Rooms and Lockers
- For users with disabilities

Important services for undergraduates
- Student Guide to the Oviatt Library
- Map of the Library
Librarians are available to assist you through the following service points:
- 24/7 “Ask a Librarian” chat service
- Text a librarian (additional text fees may apply)
- Reference desk
- Subject Specialists

I am also available for email reference and individual consultation by appointment. Please contact: stephen.kutay@csun.edu