Library Research Activity

This is a preview of the published version of the quiz

Started: Oct 31 at 6:21pm

Quiz Instructions

In this exercise you will learn about specific library resources that will help you find information for your group projects. You can come back to this activity as many times as you like.

Learning Goals:

- Identify keywords
- Find background information
- Find a book
- Find an article
- Explain why we cite sources
- Begin to focus/hone in on a research topic

Instructions:

This exercise will help you get started on your research in psychology, record information about the sources you find, and analyze how your sources will support your group assignment due later this quarter.

In addition to this exercise, there are two research guides for your class. The College 101 research guide (http://libguides.uwb.edu/college101) links to all of the resources discussed below and is meant to help you get started on your research. You'll want to reference the research guide as you work through this exercise.

Since this is an integrated learning course, you should also take a look at the Psychology 100 research guide (http://guides.lib.uw.edu/c.php?g=345590&p=2544529). Many of the same resources are on both guides, but there are additional psychology-specific library resources highlighted there.

Lets get started!

Step 1: Go to the College 101 research guide (http://libguides.uwb.edu/college101)

Step 2: Read the information presented in this Canvas exercise

Step 3: Answer the questions below

Reminder! Make sure you've created your UW NetID. Visit http://www.cascadia.edu/services/computing/uwnetid.aspx to learn more and to set up your netid if you have not done so.
Keywords

Most databases don't understand the natural language we speak. For this reason, it is important to be strategic about the search terms you type into the search box. These search terms are also referred to as keywords. You'll want to avoid using full sentences. Before you start searching in library resources it helps to brainstorm a list of possible search terms so that you can search library databases more effectively. If one keyword isn't finding relevant or helpful results try another!

Keywords include synonyms, broader or narrower terms, and related terms, but they might also be phrases, names or places.

Example Topic --

Impact of stereotyping on minorities' self-esteem

Here are some additional keywords for this sample research topic (Note: I included synonyms, related terms, broader terms, and narrower terms):

Example Keywords --

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Stereotyping</th>
<th>Minorities</th>
<th>self-esteem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effect</td>
<td>Bias, prejudice</td>
<td>Non-dominant group</td>
<td>self-concept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result</td>
<td>Discrimination</td>
<td>Historically excluded group</td>
<td>identity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>Ableism, Ablism</td>
<td>Disabled, Differently-abled, Blind, etc.</td>
<td>well-being</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Outcome | Sexism, gender bias | Women, girls, female, etc. | self-respect |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>adulthood</td>
<td>youth, teens, teenagers, adolescents</td>
<td>self-worth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Racism, ethnocentrism</td>
<td>Asian-Americans, Native-Americans, etc.</td>
<td>pride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Homophobia, Transphobia</td>
<td>LGBTQ, Transgender, Queer, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ageism, Agism, age bias</td>
<td>Elderly, senior citizens, older</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here's a sample topic that is narrower (more specific) than the original topic above:

**Impact of gender bias on adolescent black females’ self-esteem**

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**Question 2**

**Your turn!** Brainstorm a list of possible keywords for your own research topic and post below:

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**Background Information**

When you begin researching a topic, you'll want to start with finding background information. This is especially important if you are not very familiar with the subject you are researching or have not decided which aspect of it you want to emphasize. **Background sources give broad overviews of topics**, and often you can use these to identify important terms, key names, and events associated with the topic. Below you will be using a resource called Gale Virtual Reference Library to find background information on your topic.

**Gale Virtual Reference Library**

Gale Virtual Reference Library (GVLR) is a collection of online encyclopedias and other reference sources. It includes introductory resources for most subject areas. You will be using GVLR to find background information on your topic.
Instructions:


![Gale Virtual Reference Library](image)

Step 2: Using the keywords that you brainstormed above, type a search into the box at the top the screen.

![Search Interface](image)

**Hint!** Make sure to use only a few of your keywords or phrases at a time, and always separate them with **AND** (like the example above).

Step 3: Browse through your results and find an article related to your topic. Click on the title of the article and use it to answer the questions below.

![Article Example](image)

**Question 3**  

Skim through your selected article and, in **2-3 sentences**, describe what you learned about your topic.
APA Citation

APA (American Psychological Association) citation style is commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. We use citations for several important reasons:

- to be ethical and responsible researchers (we acknowledge the ideas of other scholars/creators)
- to avoid plagiarism (we quote the words, ideas, and creative works of others)
- to help the reader to track down sources (we provide publication information to help our readers find the same resources we used)

Notice that Gale Virtual Reference Library provides several tools to make your research easier! The Citation Tools link will provide the APA and MLA citations. You can also use the E-mail feature to easily send yourself the article.
Question 5

Use the **Citation Tools** link in the right sidebar and **copy/paste the APA citation** into the box below (and if you want to save this article, make sure to use the **E-mail** sidebar link to send yourself the article for later!).

Question 6

List three reasons why we provide [citations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citation) in our research:

Follow these steps before answering questions 7 and 8!
Finding Books

Books are also great for finding background information on a topic. They can provide broad overviews, but can also go into more in-depth coverage of a topic or event. It isn't always necessary to read an entire book, often you'll find that a chapter or two will be helpful or relevant.

UW Libraries Search

In this part of the research exercise you will search for books on your topic using UW Libraries Search -- the big search box on the Campus Library homepage. This is where you can search to find what books and other physical materials (DVDs, video games, etc.) the library owns.

**Step 1:** Watch an online tutorial on how to use UW Libraries Search by clicking on the video or link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ElEFdqUBpcc&feature=youtu.be

**Step 2:** Go to the Campus Library's homepage (http://library.uwb.edu/)

**Step 3:** Try out some of your keywords in UW Libraries Search (big purple search box in the middle of the homepage) to find a book.

**Hint:** Use the keywords you identified earlier in this exercise and/or used in Gale Virtual Reference Library. Try different combinations to see which keywords give you the most relevant results.

**Example Searches:**

1. stereotyping minorities
2. bias AND girls AND self-esteem
3. homophobia AND self-esteem
**Important**: Don't forget to separate different concepts with **AND**.

**Step 4**: Narrow your search results to view books available at the Campus Library.

1. At the top of the screen near the search box, click the drop down arrow next to ‘Articles, Books, and More.’ Select **UW Bothell/CCC Library** instead, and click **Search**.

2. Limit your results by clicking to **Print Books**, under ‘Refine My Results – Resource Type’.

**Hint**: Depending on your results list, you might have to click on the 'More Options' link at the bottom of the box to see the **Print Books** option. You can also select print books and ebooks at the same time under the more options menu.

**Step 5**: Once you have a list of results, answer the questions below.

**Question 7**

Skim through your results and find a book that looks interesting. View **Item Details** to learn more about the book. Look at the description for chapter titles and/or a summary of the book.
Click on the 'Availability & Request Options' tab and record the following information about your book:

Record the following:

- Keywords you used
- Title
- Author
- Location
- Call Number

Briefly discuss how you think the book relates to your research topic. (Hint: View 'Item Details' to learn more about the book)
In addition to books and DVDs, you can use UW Libraries Search to find articles in newspapers, magazines and scholarly journals. Look for the "Article" icon in your search results. The access options tab will tell you if the library subscribes to an online version of the magazine, newspaper or journal. If we do, yahoo! You'll probably have immediate access to the article.

Notice the citation information that you will need if you use this article. UW Library Search also has a handy "citation" feature that will provide the APA style citation.

Once you find an article that might be relevant to your topic, you will need to check "access options" and the database link next to "content available" to access that article (if it's online). Each database looks a little different, and this step can be a little confusing -- so if you get stuck, be sure to ask for help!
Question 9

Did you find a helpful article? Record the following information:

- Article title
- Author(s)
- Journal or magazine title
- Publication date
- Volume/Issue #
- Pages

(hint: remember there may be a citation tool that will help format this into APA style for you! You can copy and paste the APA citation here, or you can add each part of the publication information separately if you prefer)

Question 10

Now that you have had some practice looking at various types of resources, how might you focus/hone in on a more specific research topic?

For example, here is a general topic: stress and anxiety

and a much more specific topic: impact of academic achievement among college students

Question 11

Take a minute to reflect on how you search for information in your everyday life. How was searching in library resources for information different from your normal search process?
Question 12

What was the **most helpful** thing you learned from this exercise, and **why**?

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Question 13

What was the **most challenging part** of this exercise? What do you still have questions about?

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All done?

Double check your work and hit submit!

If you have any questions, please let me know! (sparkerz@uw.edu)

(mailto:sparkerz@uw.edu)