

WRITING 121 - INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARY RESOURCES

<http://www.lcc.edu/library>



1) RESEARCH DATABASES – Use these to locate credible sources of information.

The LCC Library subscribes to over 100 research databases. Most of the databases listed below provide articles from **magazines, newspapers, and journals**, and other sources like encyclopedias and reference books.

To access the Library's databases:

1. Go to the Library's website at: <http://www.lcc.edu/library>
2. Click on the **Databases** link.
3. Click on the letter of the alphabet with which a database title begins. Or click on the **Subjects** drop-down menu and select a subject.
4. **Note:** to connect to the databases from off campus you must enter your LCC Technology User ID and password. Directions for accessing your TUID and password: <http://www.lcc.edu/helpdesk/tuid/index.htm>

Select Research Databases:

- **CQ Researcher** – Features a different social issue each week.
- **eLibrary** – Articles from newspapers, magazines, radio and television transcripts, and books are available. Also includes a map file and a photo and image file.
- **Expanded Academic ASAP** – Articles from scholarly journals, magazines, and newspapers. Useful for research in many disciplines including arts, humanities, social science, science and technology.
- **General OneFile** – News and periodical articles on a wide range of topics including: business, current events, education, environment, health, literature, art, politics, science, social science, sports, & technology.
- **Facts.com Reference Suite** – Interlinked databases featuring news and facts. Includes *World News Digest*, *Issues and Controversies*, *Today's Science*, *World Almanac*, and *World Almanac Encyclopedia*.
- **Michigan Newspapers Collection** – Full-text articles from select Michigan newspapers.
- **SIRS Knowledge Source** – Articles from magazines, newspapers, government documents and web sites.
- **WilsonSelect Plus** – Full-text articles from over 800 magazines and scholarly / professional journals.

2) FINDING FULL-TEXT ARTICLES

When you are looking for the text of a specific magazine, newspaper, or journal article:

- Click the **Full-Text Options** link attached to the citation in a database you are searching. The system will check to see if the article is available in another database. This option is not available in every database.
- Check the **Serials Solutions** database to identify other research databases that may include the full text of articles from a specific periodical. Access this database from the **Databases** or **Find Articles** web pages.
- Check the **Catalog** to see if the Library subscribes to the periodical or to request an Interlibrary Loan (ILL).

3) CATALOG

The LCC Library catalog allows you to search for a variety of resources including:

Books
Ebooks

Web Resources
Audiobooks

Videos / DVDs
Music CDs

Course Reserves
Periodical Titles

To find the LCC Library Catalog click on the **Catalog** link on the library home page.

There are a number of ways to search the Catalog including:


Subject
Author

Keyword
Periodicals

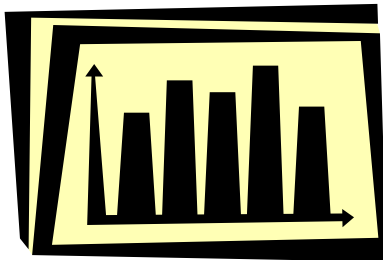
Title
Reserves



EXAMPLE TITLE SEARCH:

Title	▼	Statistical Abstract of the United States	Entire Catalog	▼	
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4) SOURCES FOR STATISTICS



1. **Statistical Abstract of the United States** – a government document available in print and on the Internet. Use the library catalog to locate both the print copy and online version. See example above.
2. Many of the library's research databases have articles that provide statistical information. Try: **Issues & Controversies @ FACTS.com** and **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center** databases.

3. **Internet Bookmarks – Statistics.** Reliable and credible statistical sources from the Internet are linkable from the Library's Internet Bookmark Collection. From the Library home page click on Find Websites > Internet Bookmark Collection > Statistics.

5) SEARCH STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE SEARCH RESULTS

- Read and use **Help** information. Help provides details on how to apply the strategies listed below.
- Use **Subjects** to find articles about the subject and **Keywords** to find articles that have the words somewhere in the document.
- Use **Boolean** operators. AND (include all words), OR (include any of the words), NOT (exclude the word)
- Use a **Wildcard** to search variations of a word. Many databases use an asterisk (*).
- Use **Phrase** searching. When searching for an exact phrase put the words within quotations.
- Use **Parentheses** to group complex Boolean searches. Sometimes referred to as nesting your searches.

6) MLA CITATION INFORMATION

Examples of MLA citations for print, online and media sources are available on the library's web site. There are also examples for in-text citation. At the library home page click on **Research Help > Citing Sources: MLA and APA** or you can link directly to these pages at: <http://www.lcc.edu/library/research-help/citation/mlaapa.htm>

7) STILL PUZZLED BY LIBRARY RESEARCH?

Try **LINKS** a self-paced online tutorial that guides users through the research process.
<http://www.lcc.edu/library/library-instruction/links-intro-page.htm>

