

## WRITING 124 - INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARY RESOURCES

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



### 1) 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>

### 2) CATALOG

The LCC Library catalog allows you to search for multiple types of resources including:

**Books**  
**Ebooks**

**Periodical Titles**  
**Audiobooks**

**Videos / DVDs**  
**Music CDs**

**Course Reserves**  
**Web Resources**

To find the LCC Library Catalog:

1. Go to <http://www.lcc.edu/library>.
2. Click on the **Catalog** link in the upper left corner.
3. The library catalog welcome page will appear.

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

- Subject
- Author
- Title
- Keyword
- Periodical Title
- Reserves



**Can't find what you need?** The catalog also provides options for requesting items not available at LCC. Click on the MeLCat link in the catalog to request an item from another Michigan library through MeLCat. If MeLCat does not have the item, click on the **New Search** link. Then click on the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) link to request the item.

### 3) SOURCES FOR STATISTICS



1. ***The Statistical Abstract of the United States*** is a government document that is available in print in the library and electronically on the WWW. Use the library catalog to locate the print and online version. In the catalog search by using the Title search option.
2. Many of the library's research databases have articles that provide statistical information. A couple of useful databases for statistics are the ***Issues & Controversies @ FACTS.com*** and ***Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*** databases.



#### 4) RESEARCH DATABASES (Magazines, Newspapers, and Journals)

The LCC Library subscribes to over 100 electronic research databases. Most of these databases index articles located in **magazines, newspapers, and journals**, all of which are considered periodicals. In many cases the actual text of the article is also available.

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. Choose a database and then click on the title link.
5. **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:

- **ABI Inform Complete** – Provides the latest business & financial information for researchers at all levels.
- **Access Science** – Contains new developments and trends in science and technology.
- **Career and Technical Education** – This full-text database features technical & vocational information.
- **Custom Newspapers** – Full-text articles from selected national and international newspapers.
- **General OneFile** – This database provides indexing, abstracting and full-text articles from over 10,000 magazines, newspapers and journals from 1980 to date.
- **SIRS Knowledge Source** – Provides articles from magazines, newspapers, and government documents. All information is full text.
- **WilsonSelect Plus** – This database provides full-text articles from over 800 publications. Subjects covered include general science, social sciences, humanities and business.

#### 5) FINDING FULL-TEXT ARTICLES

When you are looking for a specific article there are three things you can do to locate the text of the article.

- Many research databases use the Article Linker service to link you to other databases that may have the full text of the article. When you are in a database and the article is not available look for hyperlinks such as these that may link you to the full text in a different database:

[Full-Text Options](#)

[Check for Full Text via Article Linker](#)

[Find Full text](#)

- Check the **Serials Solutions** database to identify other research databases that may include the full text of articles from a specific periodical. Access it from the Library's **Find Articles** web page.
- Check the **Catalog** to see if the Library subscribes to the periodical or to request an Interlibrary Loan (ILL).

#### 6) 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.