Today we are going to look at some sources of information and show you how to access them. Then when it comes time for you to begin your research project, you will know what the best sources of information are for the task and how to find the sources. To access most databases from off-campus, you will need your OCCC library card number: All cards start with 2228300 and to this, add your seven-digit OCCC Student ID number.

Finding Books:
We highly recommend our e-book collection, Ebrary’s Academic Complete, which has over 70,000 academic titles available to you 24/7.

From the Library homepage, click on “Find a Book” and scroll down to “ebrary’s Academic Complete.” To access from off-campus, you will need your OCCC library card number: All cards start with 2228300 and to this add your seven-digit OCCC Student ID number.
What are the main differences between a journal article and a magazine article? Why are journals better to use than popular magazines when writing academic papers?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarly:</th>
<th>Popular Magazines:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Longer articles, providing an in-depth analysis</td>
<td>▪ Shorter articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ The author is an expert or specialist in their field, and their name and credentials are always provided</td>
<td>▪ The author usually a staff writer or a journalist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Written in the jargon of the field</td>
<td>▪ Written in non-technical language for the general public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Articles are usually more structured, and may include an <em>abstract, literature review, methodology, results, conclusion, &amp; bibliography</em></td>
<td>▪ Articles do not necessarily follow a specific structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Illustrations support the text-- such as statistics, graphs, maps, or photographs</td>
<td>▪ Illustrations include glossy, color photographs including advertising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Articles are reviewed by a board of experts in the field (refereed)</td>
<td>▪ Articles are evaluated by editors on staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ A bibliography is always provided to document research thoroughly</td>
<td>▪ A bibliography is not usually not provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Example: Geriatric Nursing</td>
<td>▪ Example: People magazine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL S VS. POPULAR MAGAZINES (Adapted from The University of Texas Library: Scholarly Journals v. Popular Magazine Articles. [http://lib.utsa.edu/Research/Subject/scholarlyguide.html](http://lib.utsa.edu/Research/Subject/scholarlyguide.html))
CQ Researcher:

CQ Researcher is a research database hosted by the Congressional Quarterly Press. It includes topics in American government, politics, history, public policy, and current affairs.

From the A-Z List of All Databases, scroll down to CQ Researcher. To access from home, the user name = occc and the password = cqr.

Find articles: Enter your search term in the Quick Search box, or click on Advanced Search (to the right and also on the left sidebar menu). The Advanced Search allows you to set some parameters to limit your search. Always try and use specific search terms rather than general terms. You can use quotation marks around a phrase to keep those words together. For example, you may wish to use quotes around “hate groups” if you wish to find articles with this phrase. You can search all text, or the titles, or topics only. Use an asterisk * for multiple endings. For example, by typing addict* you might find articles with addicting, addiction, addictions, and so forth. You may wish to limit your date range if currency is important. Notice that you can search all of the report sections (the default), or you can just search certain sections if you prefer. You can sort results by relevancy, data, or alphabetically.

Find the most recent articles: Select “Browse Reports” from the top menu. Then you can select “By Date,” and then choose the most recent years. They also show the most recent issues on the bottom of their homepage. You can scroll and browse the latest articles using the arrows.

Print the entire article or only part of it: After selecting an article, look for the toolbar just under the CQ Researcher header. The PRINT drop-down box gives options to print the entire article or certain sections.

Email yourself a copy of the article: After selecting an article, look for the toolbar just under the CQ Researcher header. Another drop-down says “E-MAIL A LINK BACK TO…” and gives you with options to email the entire article or certain sections.

Create a citation in MLA: After selecting an article, look for the “CITE NOW!” button on the toolbar just under the CQ Researcher header. Click on the link, then select the style you are using (for example, MLA). Then just copy and paste into your word document.
# Academic Search Premier

This is the second database in our listing. Click on the Home Access link in the right-hand column; enter your OCCC Library card with no spaces, or your OCCC student ID# in this format XXX-XXXX.

## Searching

How do you narrow or expand your topic with Boolean terms? The advanced search allows keyword searching in various fields along with Boolean operators.

**Use AND in a search to:**
- narrow your results
- tell the database that ALL search terms must be present in the resulting records
- example: cloning AND humans AND ethics

**Use OR in a search to:**
- connect two or more similar concepts (synonyms)
- broaden your results, telling the database that ANY of your search terms can be present in the resulting records
example: cloning OR genetics OR reproduction

Use NOT in a search to:

- exclude words from your search
- narrow your search, telling the database to ignore concepts that may be implied by your search terms
- example: cloning NOT sheep

Use the wildcard (?) and truncation (*) symbols to create searches with various endings or spellings. For example, submitting te?t would result in searches with both test and text. Using the * at the end of a root word finds all form of that word. For example, hik* finds hike, hiker, hiking.

Or try the the SmartText Searching button — this allows you to put a paragraph or more into the search box. The articles are returned in order of relevance based on the words you entered. Also, check the Full Text box. This keeps you from getting abstracts in your results.

Limit your results, such as Full Text, Scholarly or Peer Reviewed, Published Date, and Document Type. This will give you fewer and hopefully more valuable results.

Notice the “Find Similar Results” box located on the left side. This will initiate another search based on the current one.
Also look at the Subject Terms, Geographic Terms, Author-Supplied Keywords, or People terms associated with the article. These are active links: click on them and it may take you to additional articles. You can also click on the author’s name and possibly find additional articles written by the same author.

Once you find an article, you can use the tools on the sidebar to help you print, email, save, and cite the article.

Look under the Tools heading for the “Cite” icon. Click on the link, and then select the style you are using. Then just copy and paste into your word document. Be aware, you may need to make some formatting changes.

You may email the article to yourself, or create an account and store your articles in a virtual folder, accessible from anywhere with internet access.
ONLINE RESOURCES:

All websites should not be trusted!

You will need to evaluate sites to determine if they are credible. Use the following check-list to help in this process.

✓ First, is there an author or source? Does the site represent a corporation, institution, organization or government? Is the author affiliated with the organization?
✓ Second, check the accuracy of the page. There should not be misspelled words or information you know to be false.
✓ Third—how current is the website page? Is there a date of creation or last update?
✓ Fourth, try and determine the objectivity of the site. Do you see a particular subject bias? Is there inflammatory language?
✓ Next, look at the coverage of the topic—does it appear to be complete?
✓ And lastly, see if you can tell why the website was created. Are they trying to sell a product, make a political statement, provide information, or is it just for fun?

Try these credible sites for your research:

Virtual Reference Shelf—This collection of links is maintained by the Library of Congress: http://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/virtualref.html

USA.gov: http://www.usa.gov/index.shtml
IPL2: http://www.ipl.org/index.html
OTHER RESOURCES TO HELP BUILD CITATIONS: Most of our databases will build a citation for you. But if you need to cite something such as a book, you will need to gather some basic information. One of the most common items in students’ works cited lists is a book by a single author. Most citations have three main divisions: the author’s name, the title of the book, and the publication information.

Go to the Library homepage and look for the link, Citation Help. The librarians have put a lot of useful information there for you, including hand-outs that you can print.

If you are citing books or websites, you may wish to use a citation generator, such as Son of Citation: http://citationmachine.net/. It’s easy to fill in the necessary blanks and submit your request. Then just copy and paste into your document.

For more information the MLA style, visit the Owl at Purdue website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

And don’t forget that the OCCC Library has the MLA style guide available for check out!