2023

Library Research Sources

COMS 325 – Approaches to Communication Research

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Agenda

Accessing resources on the library website

Techniques for finding research

Resources for background & context

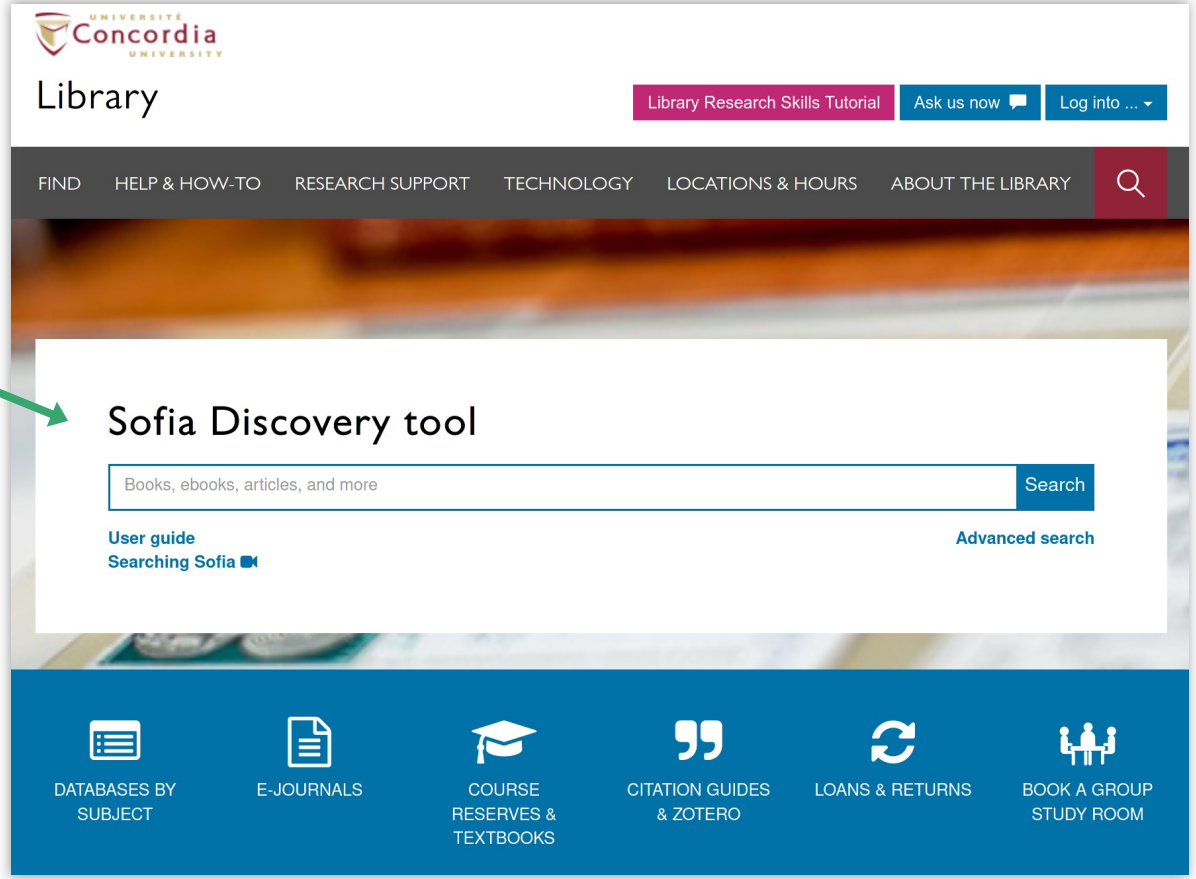
Finding journal articles

Citing your sources

library.concordia.ca

From the home page:

- Library catalogue (Sofia)
- Journals
- Databases
- Citation guides
- Subject guides



Which of these items can you borrow from the Technology Sandbox?

gaming laptop

360 degree camera

USB microphone

All of these

Techniques for Finding Research

Finding sources from bibliographies

article

Goodall, H. L., Jr. “Narrative Ethnography as Applied Communication Research.” *Journal of Applied Communication Research* 32, no. 3 (August 1, 2004): 185–94.

chapter

Kivits, Joelle. “Online Interviewing and the Research Relationship.” In *Virtual Methods: Issues in Social Research on the Internet*, edited by Christine Hine, 35–49. New York: Berg, 2005.

article

Lynch, Michael. “Archives in Formation: Privileged Spaces, Popular Archives and Paper Trails.” *History of the Human Sciences* 12, no. 2 (May 1999): 65–87. https://doi.org/10.1177/09526959922120252.

book

Vanstone, Gail. *D Is for Daring: The Women behind the Films of Studio D*. Women’s Issues Publishing Program. Toronto: Sumach Press, 2007.

How many titles are in the library's collection?

2 million+

Background and Context

Encyclopedias & similar reference books

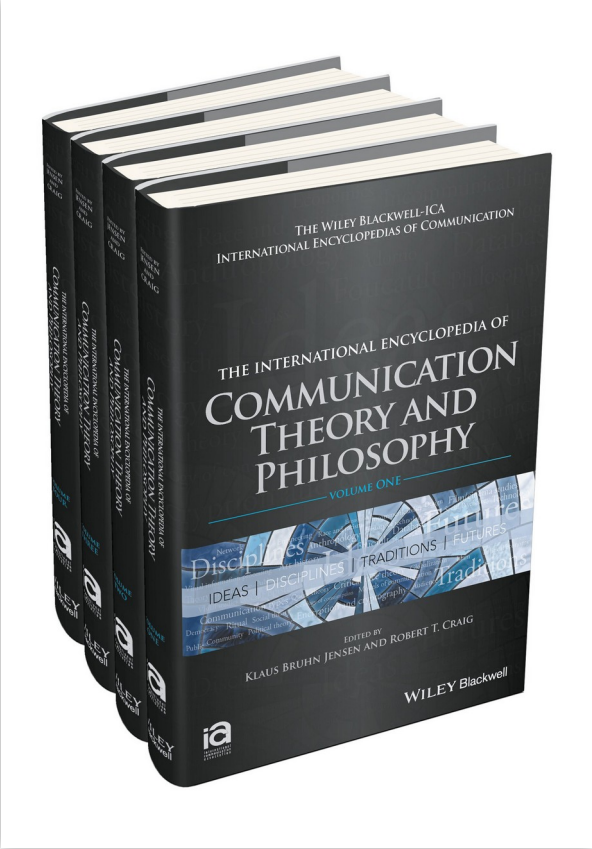
Subject **encyclopedias**

- context
- background
- issues
- definitions

From **academic** publishers

- editorial review
- authoritative

Other reference books



Encyclopedia

- Background information
- Overview of a subject w/ some in-depth articles
- *broad* understanding

Handbook

- Comprehensive focus on a topic
- May include data
- Often provides practical guidance, techniques, best-practices

Try these keyword searches in Sofia

- communication* AND encyclopedia
- communication* AND dictionary
- mass media AND handbook
- culture AND encyclopedia
- “popular culture” AND encyclopedia

Sofia

Search an online encyclopedia

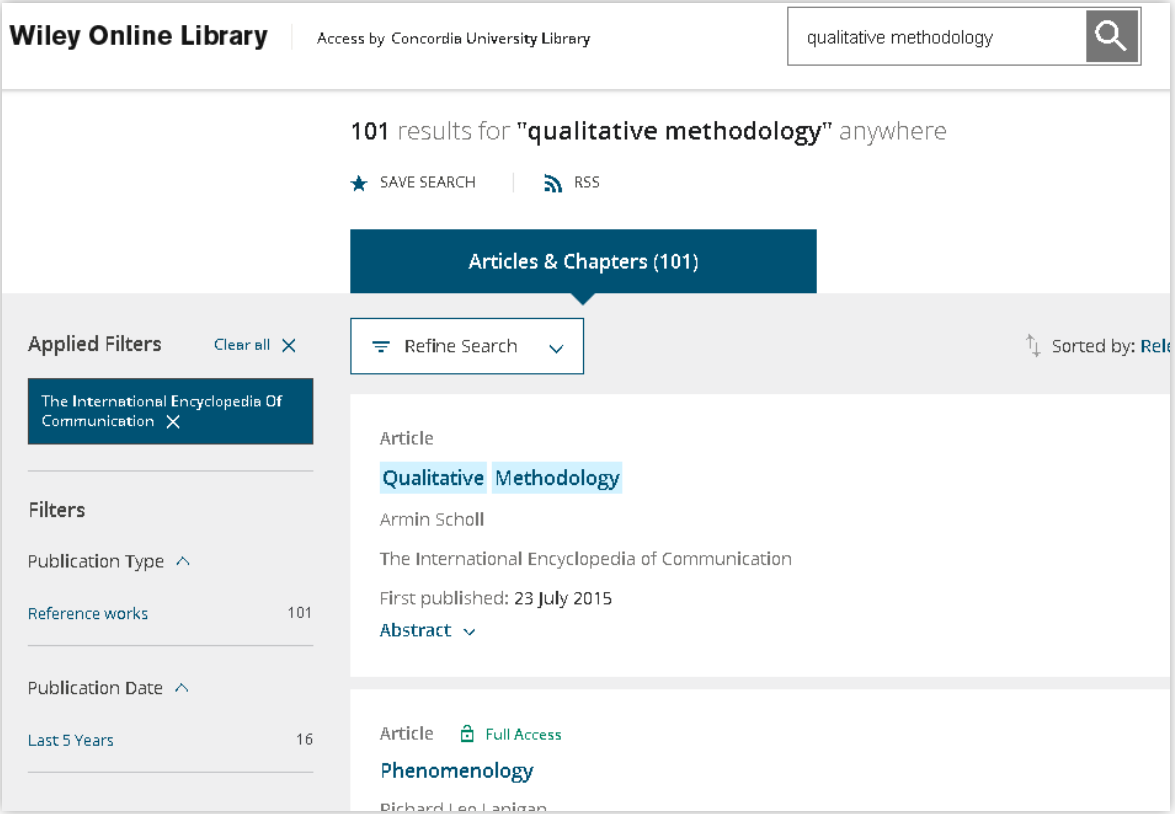
1. Go to Sofia (search the catalogue by title)

2. Find & connect to the **International Encyclopedia of Communication** online
   (click “View eBook”)

3. Find the article about **qualitative methodology**.

4. Find a reference used in this article

5. What university is the author affiliated with?



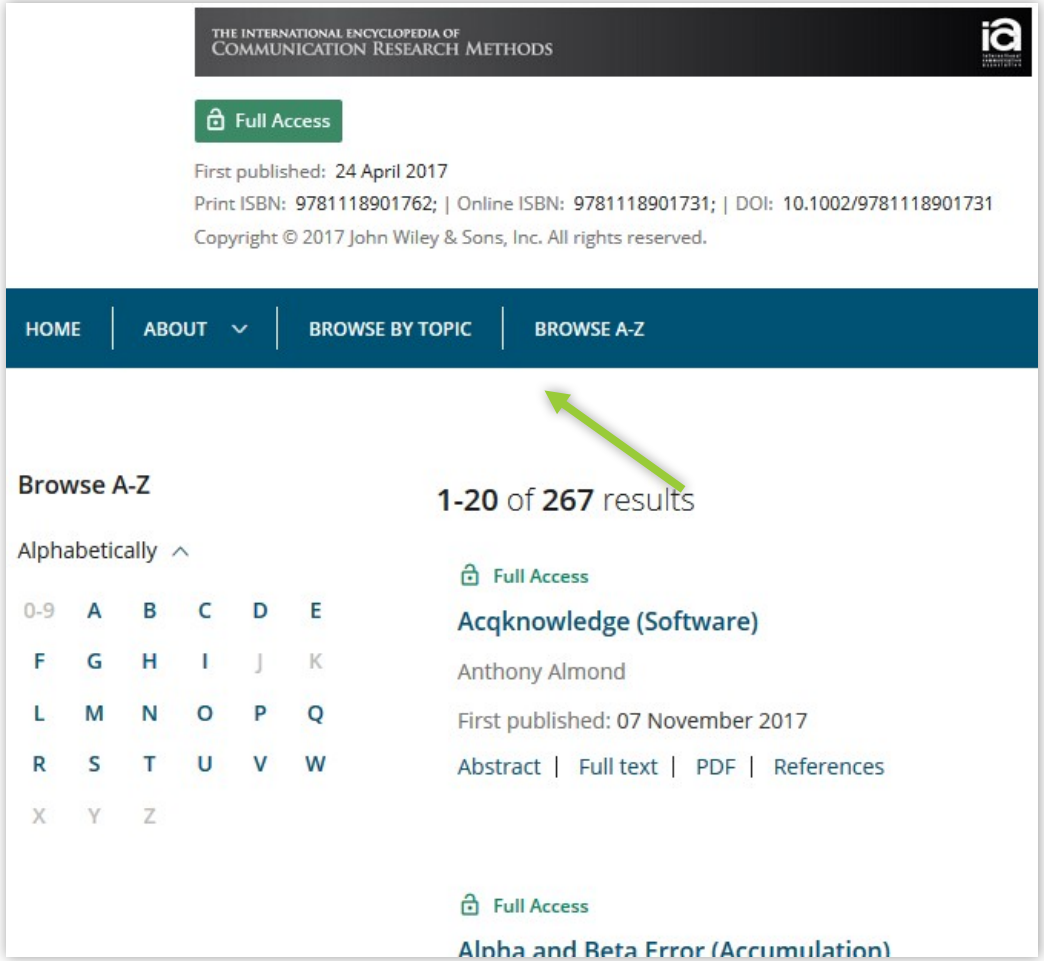
Browse an online encyclopedia

1. Go to the Library research subject guide for communication studies

2. Find & connect to the **International Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods**

3. Use the **alphabetical browse** functionality to find the entry about **Arts-based Methods**.

4. Find an entry in this encyclopedia about **Visual Research Methods**



Looking for books on methods in Sofia

- **su=**Culture Methodology vs. **su:**“Culture Methodology”
- Mass media research methodology
- Culture Research
- Participant Observation
- Ethnology Methodology
- Social Sciences research methodology
- Interviewing in ethnology
- Discourse analysis
- Communication research methodology

Subject headings
subject phrase vs. subject

&

Sage Research Methods
provides access to ebooks, guides for qualitative and quantitative research, video explainers, practice datasets, and case examples of how other researchers have approached projects.

Subject Headings and Indigenous Terms

Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)

- Commonly used among North American university libraries
- Main subject heading for material about Indigenous peoples in Canada and the USA is **“*Indians of North America*”**

The term **Indigenous** is relatively new to systems relying on LCSH

Correct terms for nations such as the **Kanien’kehá:ka** or confederacies such as the **Haudenosaunee** are less prevalent in **Sofia** (catalogue search) than terms such as Mohawk or Iroquois

Cite | Share | Save

Knowing the past, facing the future : Indigenous education in Canada

Authors: Sheila Carr-Stewart 1943- (Editor)

Print Book 2019
Vancouver, British Columbia : Purich Books, [2019]

Summary: "In 1867, Canada's federal government became responsible for the education of Indigenous peoples: Status Indians and some Métis would attend schools on reserves; non-Status Indians and some Métis would attend provincial schools. The system set the

Show More

More Author/Title Info: edited by Sheila Carr-Stewart.

Physical Description: viii, 303 pages : illustrations ; 24 cm

Contents: Introduction / Sheila Carr-Stewart -- "One school for every reserve" : Chief Thunderchild's defence of treaty rights and resistance to separate schools, 1880-1925 / Sheila Carr-Stewart -- Placing a school at the tail of a plough : the European roots of Indian industrial schools in Canada / Larry Prochner -- The heavy debt of our missions : failed treaty promises and Anglican schools in Blackfoot territory, 1892-1902 / Sheila Carr-Stewart -- If you say I am Indian, what will you do? History and self-identification at humanity's intersection / Jonathan Anuik -- Laying the foundations for success : recognizing manifestations of racism in First Nations education / Noella Steinbauer -- Iskotew and Crow : (re)igniting narratives of Indigenous survivance and honouring trauma wisdom in the classroom / Karlee D. Fellner -- Curriculum after the Truth and Reconciliation Commission : a conversation between two educators on the future of Indigenous education / Harry Lafond and Darryl Hunter -- Indigenous and western worldviews : fostering ethical space in the classroom / Jane P. Preston -- Supporting equitable learning outcomes for Indigenous students : lessons from Saskatchewan / Michael Cottrell and Rosalind Hardie -- Hybrid encounters : First Peoples Principles of Learning and teachers' constructions of Indigenous education and educators / Brooke Madden -- The Alberta Métis Education Council : realizing self-determination in education / Yvonne Poitras and Solange Lalonde.

Subjects: *Library of Congress Subject Headings*
Indigenous peoples Education Canada.
Indigenous peoples Education Canada History.
Off-reservation boarding schools Canada.
Off-reservation boarding schools Canada History.
Education and state Canada.
Education and state Canada History.

Until recently "**Residential School**" was less common than subject headings such as:

- "Off-reservation boarding schools - Canada"
- "Indians of North America - Education"

Cite | Share | Save

The history. Part 1, Origins to 1939.

Authors: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (Author)

eBook 2016
Montreal [Québec] ; Kingston [Ontario] : Published for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada by McGill-Queen's University Press, 2015.

Google Preview

Physical Description: 1 online resource (962 pages) : illustrations.

Series: Canada's residential schools : the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada ; v. 1, pt. 1
Canada's residential schools : the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada ; v. 1, pt. 1.

Contents: Section 1: The historical context for Canada's residential schools. 1. Colonialism in the Age of Empire -- 2. The churches and their mission of conversion -- 3. Residential schooling in French Canada: 1608-1763 -- 4. Treaty-making and betrayal: The roots of Canada's Aboriginal policy -- 5. Pre-Confederation residential schools -- 6. Mission schools in the Canadian West: 1820-1880 -- 7. Confederation, colonization, and resistance -- 8. National and international models for Canada's residential schools.
Section 2: The Canadian residential school system, 1867 to 1939. 9. Laying the groundwork for the residential school system -- 10. Student accounts of residential school life: 1867-1939 -- 11. Establishing and operating the system: 1867-1939 -- 12. The struggle over enrolment: 1867-1939 -- 13. The educational record of residential schools: 1867-1939 -- 14. The student as labourer: 1867-1939 -- 15. Recreation and sports: 1867-1939 -- 16. The deadly toll of infectious diseases: 1867-1939 -- 17. Building and maintaining the schools: 1867-1939 -- 18. Fire, a deadly hazard: 1867-1939 -- 19. Food and diet at residential schools: 1867-1939 -- 20. School clothing: 1867-1939 -- 21. Discipline: 1867-1939 -- 22. Covering up sexual abuse: 1867-1939 -- 23. Student victimization of students: 1867-1939 -- 24. Truancy: 1867-1939 -- 25. Separating children from parents: 1867-1939 -- 26. Suppressing Aboriginal languages: 1867-1939 -- 27. Separating children from their traditions: 1867-1939 -- 28. Separating the sexes, arranging marriages, establishing colonies: 1867-1939 -- 29. The Lytton school: 1902-1939 -- 30. Parents respond and resist: 1867-1939 -- 31. The staff experience: 1867-1939.

Subjects: *Library of Congress Subject Headings*
Indians of North America Canada History.
Indians of North America Canada Residential schools.
Indians of North America Education Canada.
Electronic books.

Strategies/finding Indigenous subject matter

1. Adjust your **search terms**
2. Learn how to identify **contributors and authors**
3. Use **subject-specific databases** and tools
4. Find and follow **Indigenous authors, publishers, and organizations**
5. Widen your search and follow **“cited by”** trails for important works for Indigenous authors on tools like **Google Scholar**
6. Repeat #1 and #2 to iterate based on learned information

Identify Other Sources

A variety of sources

- Reference books (e.g. encyclopedia or dictionary)
- Books (academic and non-academic)
- News sources
- Magazines and trade publications
- Scholarly articles; peer reviewed
- Government reports, publications
- NGO publications, associations, professional
- Non-print formats (video, audio)
- Non-traditional formats

What about AI tools?

Write me a literature review on research of how students portray themselves with pets on social media (include at least 2 references and write a maximum of 200 words). Cite all references using MLA style.

A literature review on the research of how students portray themselves with pets on social media reveals that pets are often seen as important components of a student's online self-presentation. According to a study by Xia et al. (2017), students use pets as a way to enhance their online image and as a source of emotional support. They also found that students use social media to document the growth and development of their pets, as well as to receive validation and support from their online network.

Another study by Hargrave and Lucero (2020) explored the relationship between pet ownership and online self-presentation among college students. Results showed that pet owners portrayed their pets in a positive light, using social media to showcase their pets and to demonstrate their love and affection towards them. The study also found that pet ownership was positively associated with self-esteem, and that social media was an important tool for pet owners to maintain and strengthen their relationships with their pets and their online network.

Overall, these studies suggest that pets play an important role in shaping students' online self-presentation and that social media serves as a platform for students to showcase their affection towards their pets and to receive validation and support from their online network.

References:

- Xia, L., Lin, J., & Fan, W. (2017). The role of pets in college students' self-presentation on social media. Journal of Educational Technology Development and Exchange, 8(1), 1-14.
- Hargrave, A., & Lucero, J. (2020). Pet ownership and online self-presentation among college students. Journal of Community Psychology, 48(2), 166-173.

- Can ChatGPT help find research?
- What are its sources?
- What do you know about the content it produces?

How can we find this article?

https://chat.openai.com

Evaluate the information / yourself

Who published the document? Motives? Audience?

government vs. non-profit org vs. researcher vs. trade association

About page on a website

history / mission / members / funding sources?

Library guide:
Evaluating research

Official government symbols, report numbers

Contact information, e.g. URL, address, institution, phone numbers

Dates of publication

Contains information that increases/challenges what you know?

Surprised? Changed your POV? Re-evaluated an assumption?

Contrasting types of publications

Scholarly Journal	Magazine / Newspaper / Trade Publication
Articles are scrutinized for quality by other scholars in the field before publication (peer review)	Editor reviews articles
Authored by scholars in the field	Authors are journalists, practicing professionals
Information is sourced with bibliography (previous research)	No bibliography. Information may be sourced by some fact-checking; interviews
Purpose is to advance knowledge; report original research	Purpose is often current news and entertainment

Who is the audience?

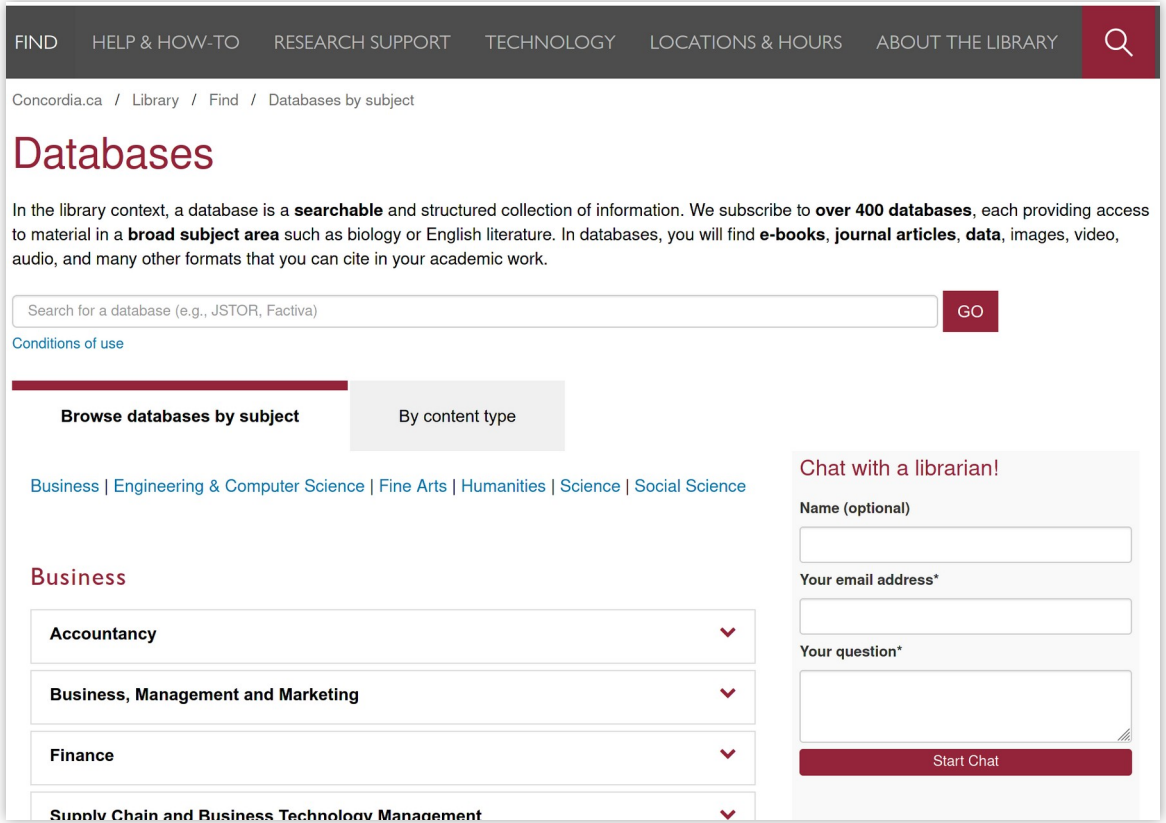
Searching library databases for scholarly articles

Select the database you want to use

A) Use the *Databases by subject* section of the Library website

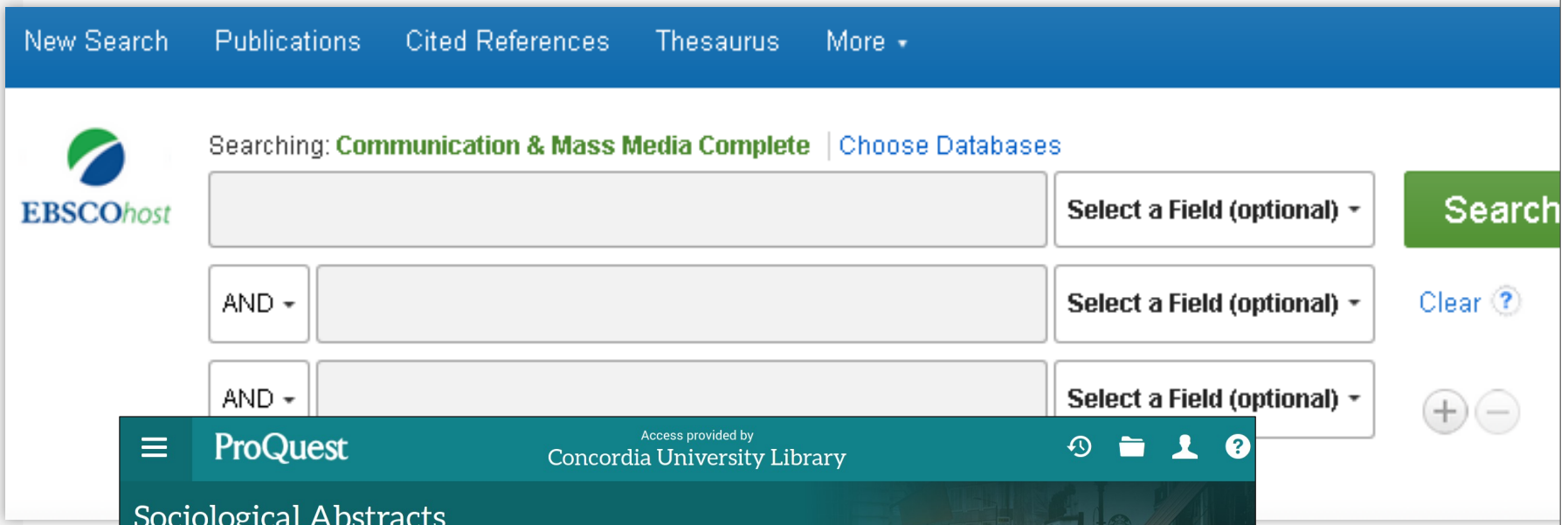
- Browse by subject
- Search by name or subject
- Browse by type (e.g. journal articles, biographies, patents, sound)

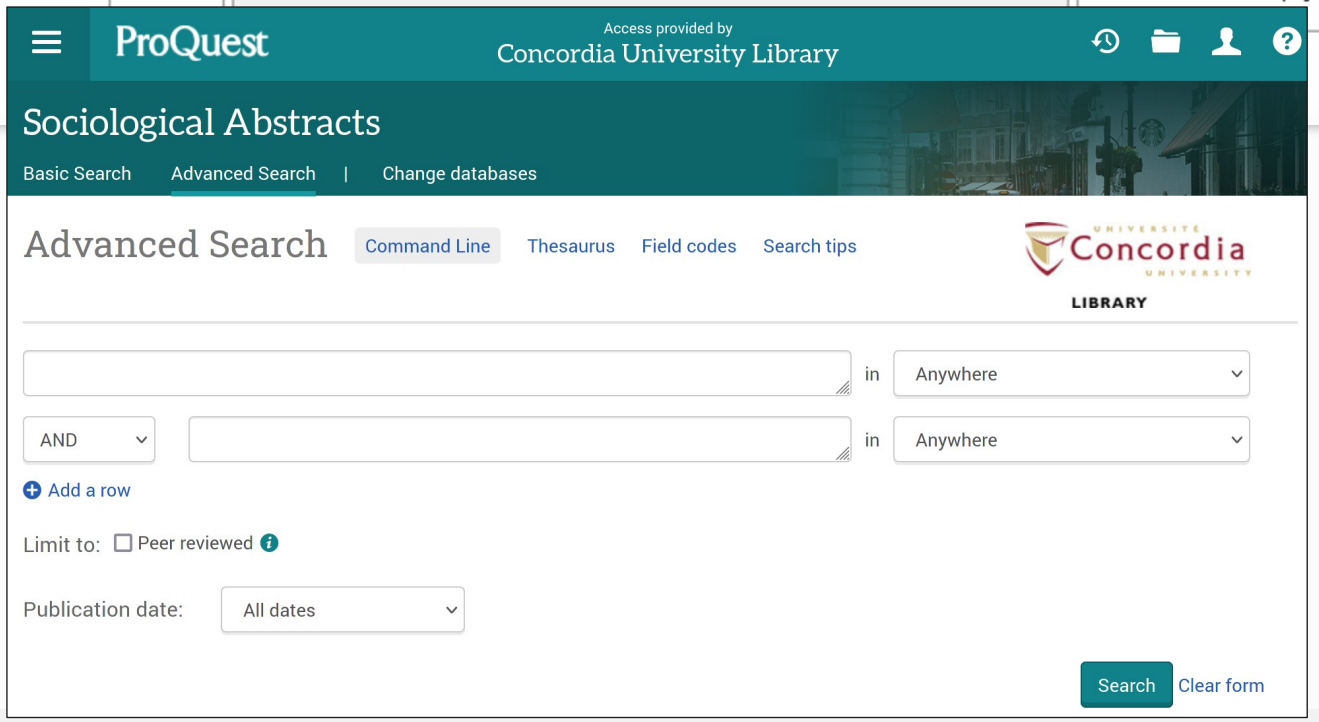
B) Use the browse/search

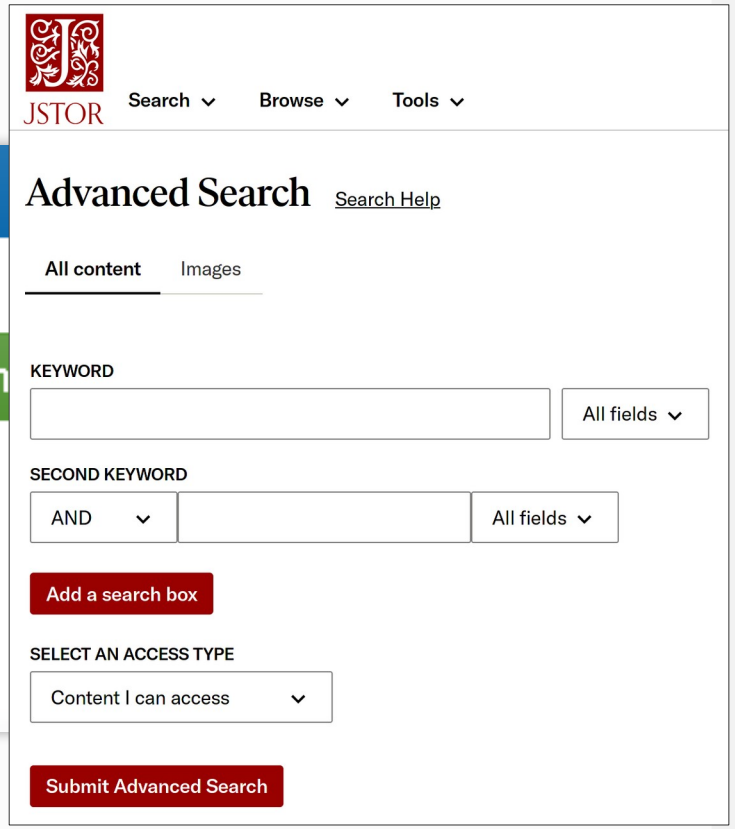


Consider bibliographic vs. full-text

Database interfaces



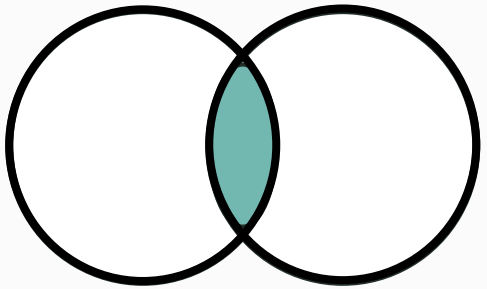




To get good results, write a **database search expression**!

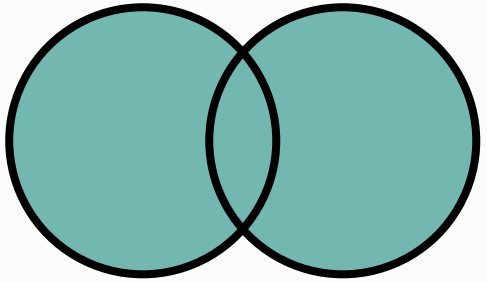
Boolean operators

AND



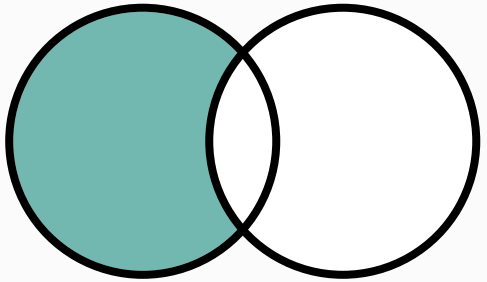
Narrows search

OR



Broadens search

NOT



Narrows search

Search improvements

Truncation *

activ* = activist OR activists OR activism

Specific phrase “ ”

“social media” = social media

≠ social AND media

≠ Pride, R. A. (1995). How Activists and Media Frame Social Problems: Critical Events Versus Performance Trends for Schools. *Political Communication, 12*(1), 5–26. https://doi-org/10.1080/10584609.1995.9963052

Use synonyms or related words!

How does social media use influence self-image in baby boomers?

Concept:	social media	self-image	baby boomer
Synonyms:	social network	body image	senior citizen
	discussion forum	self-esteem	post-war generation
	Internet	satisfaction	1946 - 1964
	Instagram	dissatisfaction	

wordnik.com
thesaurus.com
wikipedia.org
wiktionary.org

Keywords for searching scholarly literature on Indigenous topics

- Indigenous
- Aboriginal
- Native**
- Indian (legal significance)
- First Nations, Métis, Inuit
- First Peoples
- Autochtone (native)
- Autochtones (indigenous)
- Amérindien (Indian)

Note regional differences:

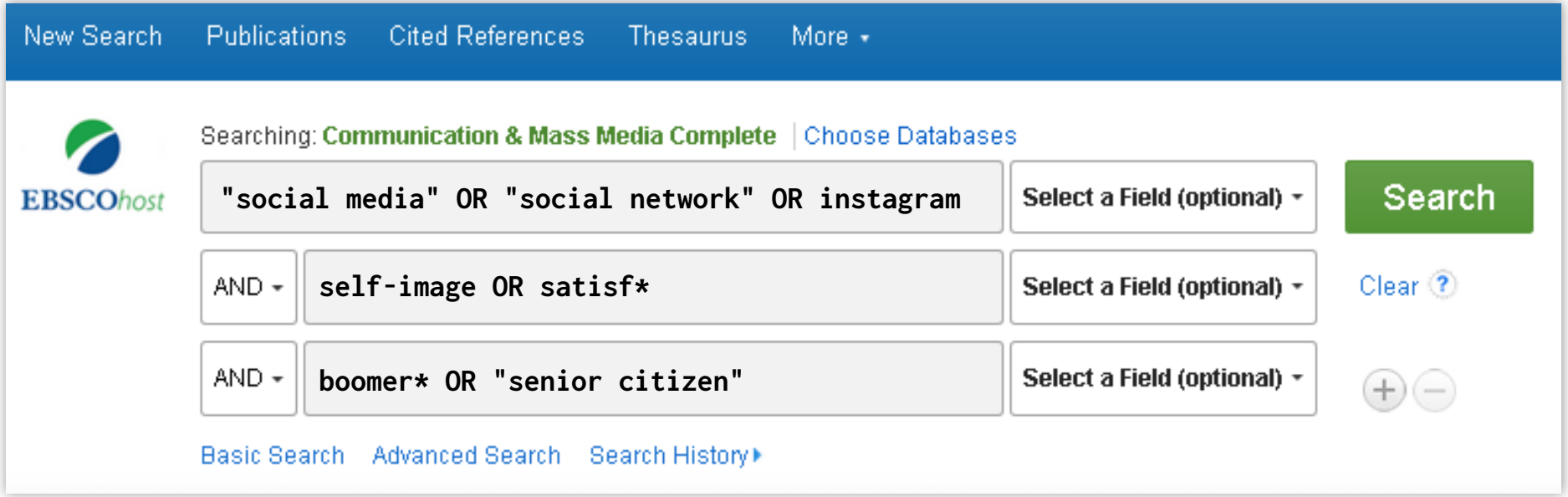
Aboriginal
used in Australia & Canada (historically)

Native American *or* American Indian
used in the USA

First Nations
used in Canada

Indigenous
used internationally

Database search example



This works the same:

("social media" OR "social network" OR instagram) AND (self-image OR satisf*) AND (boomer* OR "senior citizen")

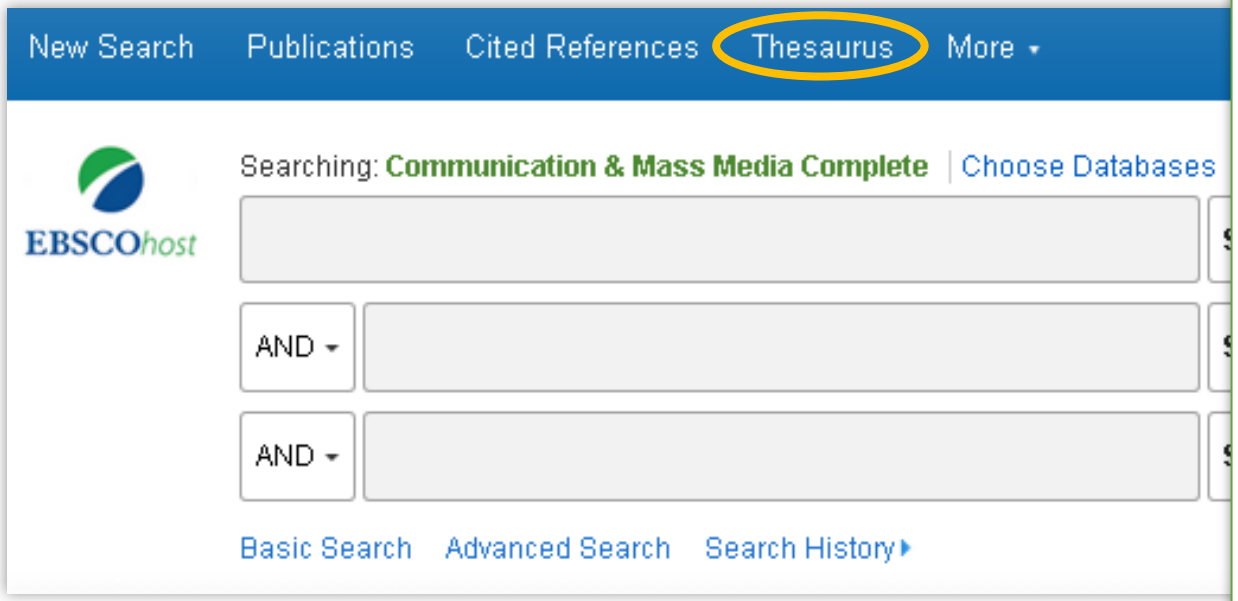
What do these do? Which is most useful?

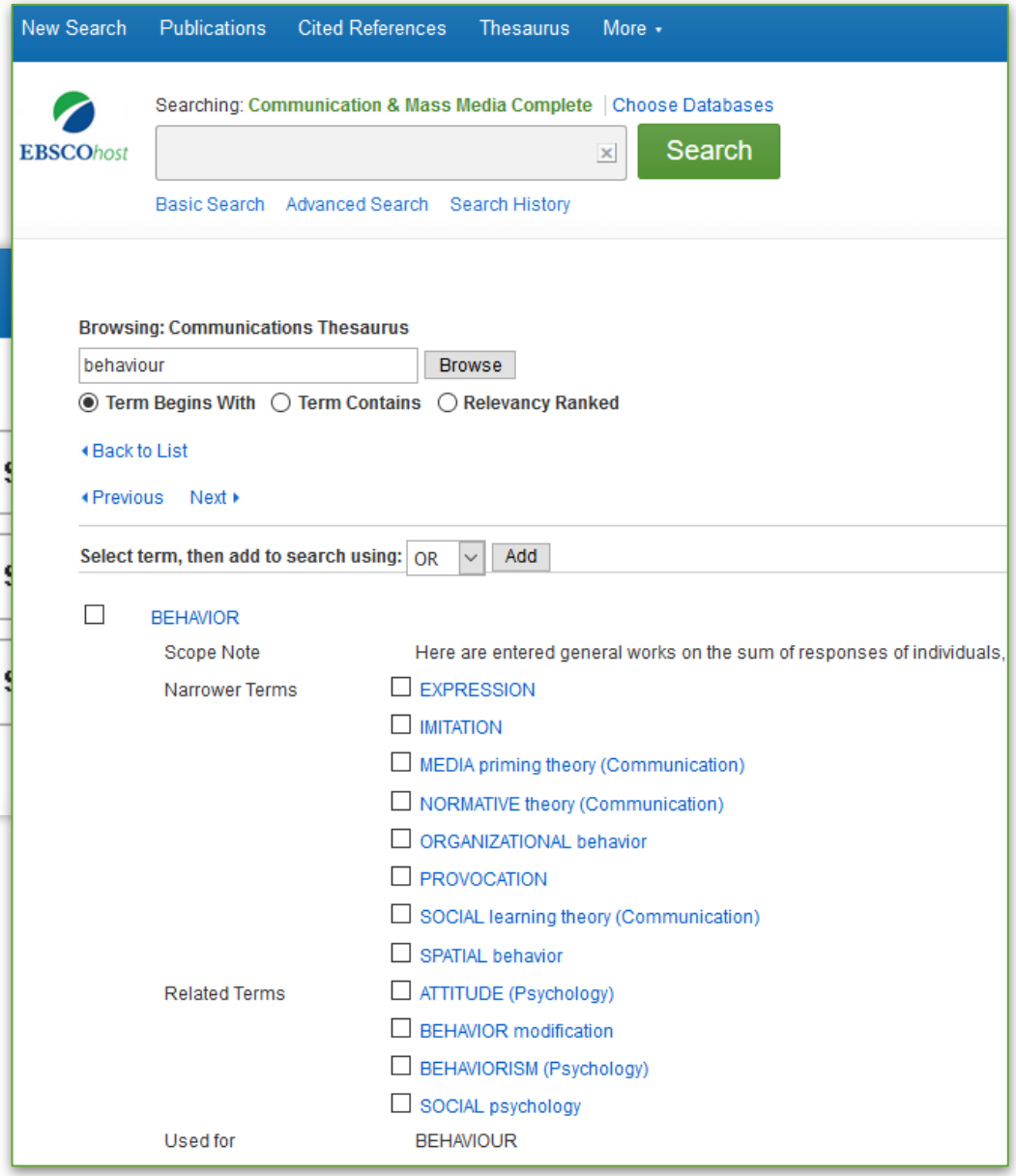
1 ("social media" OR instagram) AND (self-image OR "body image" OR self-esteem) AND boomer*

2 "social media" OR internet AND (self-image OR "body image") AND (boomer)

3 ("social media" OR instagram) AND (self-image AND "body image") AND (boomer* OR senior*)

Controlled vocabulary

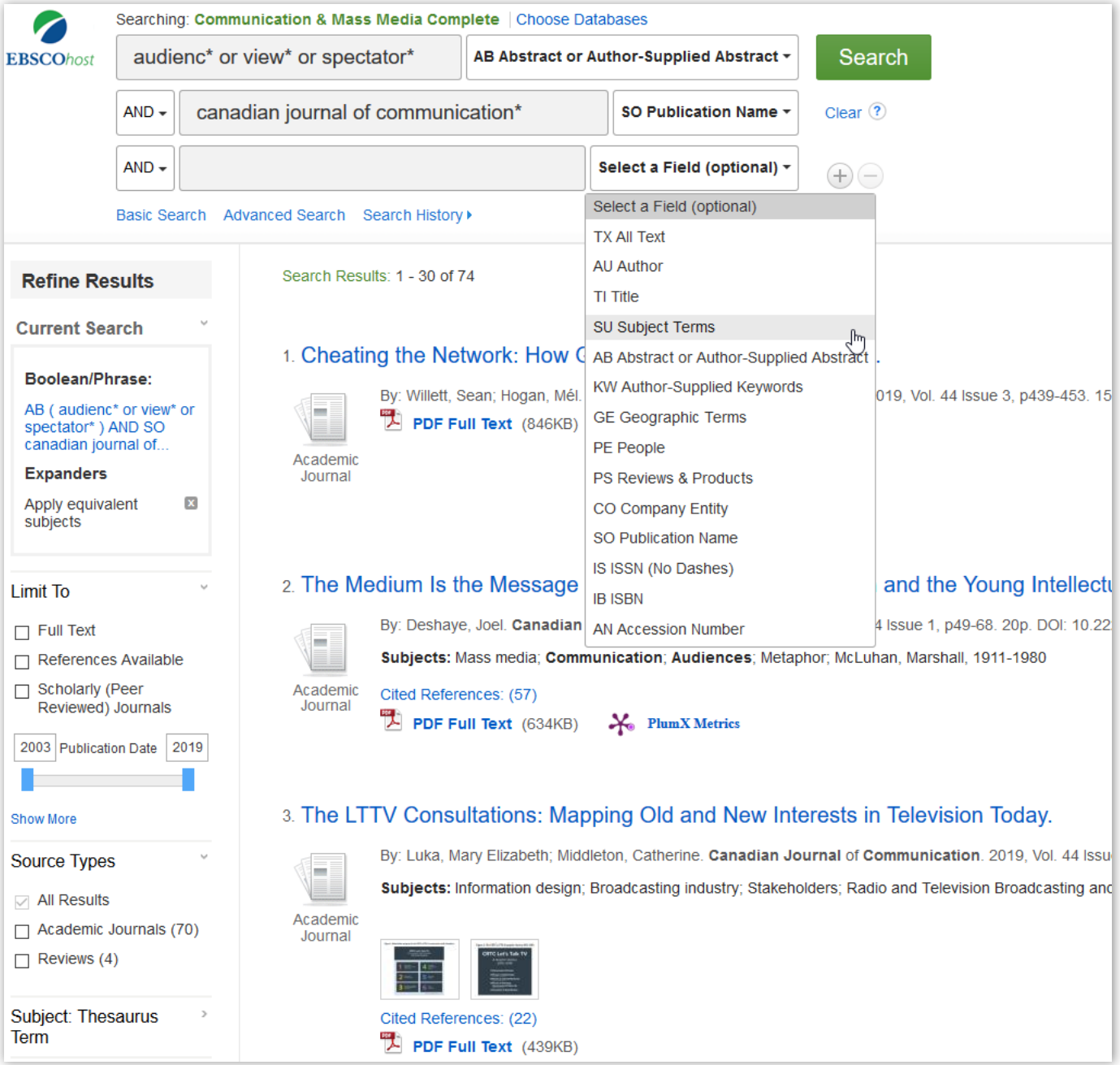




- CV describes the subject of the article
- Subject, descriptor fields
- Many database have a thesaurus of terms

Field searching

Use limits to filter results



Citing & Additional Help

Citation styles

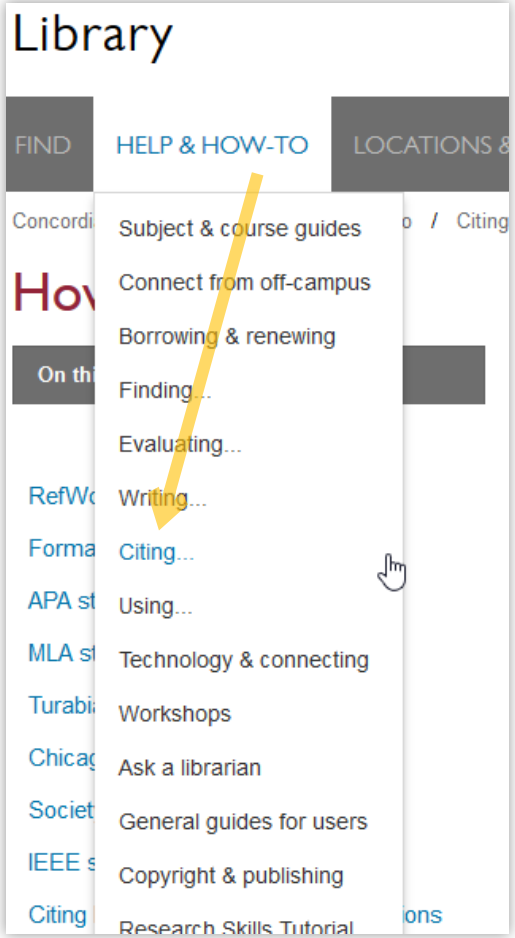
- Used to compile bibliographies in academic works (e.g. articles, books) and assignments.
- Provide integrity to the work by ensuring that authors format their references in a way that is understood by others.

Consult the specific style guide to learn how

“APA”

Concordia how-to guides on academic citing

library.concordia.ca/help/citing



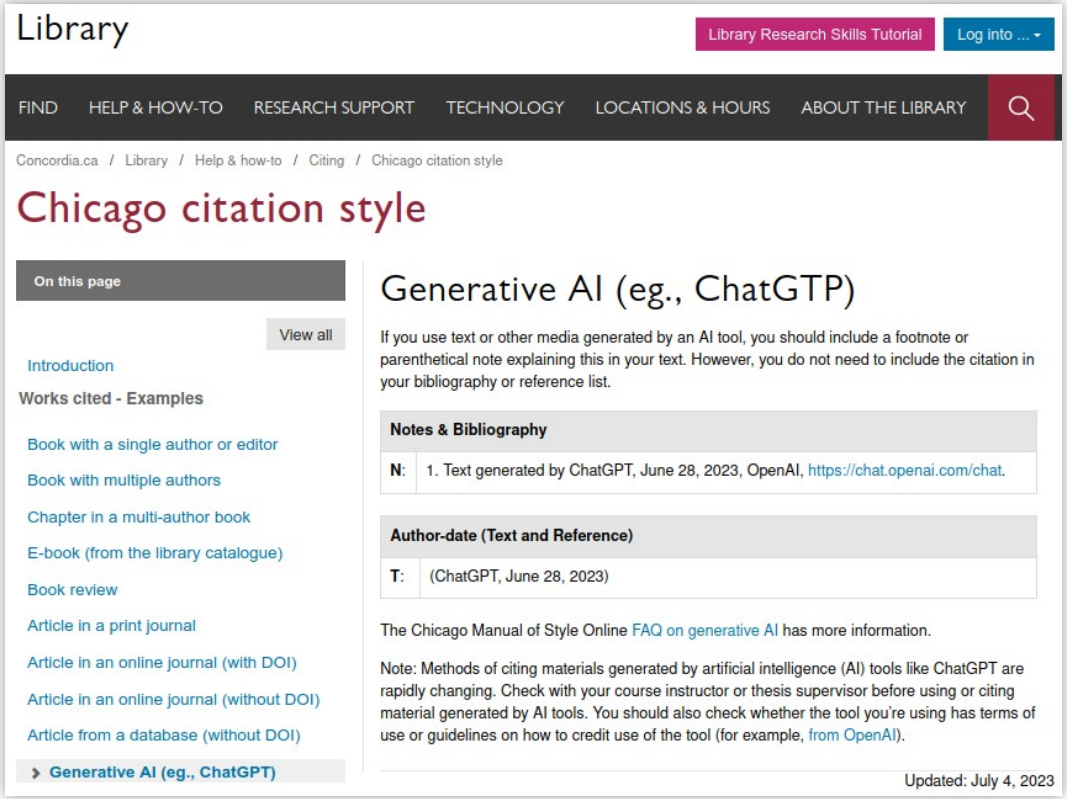
Citing + terms & conditions for AI

MLA has specific guidance, which includes acknowledging use for things such as editing or translating.

APA recommends personal communication style

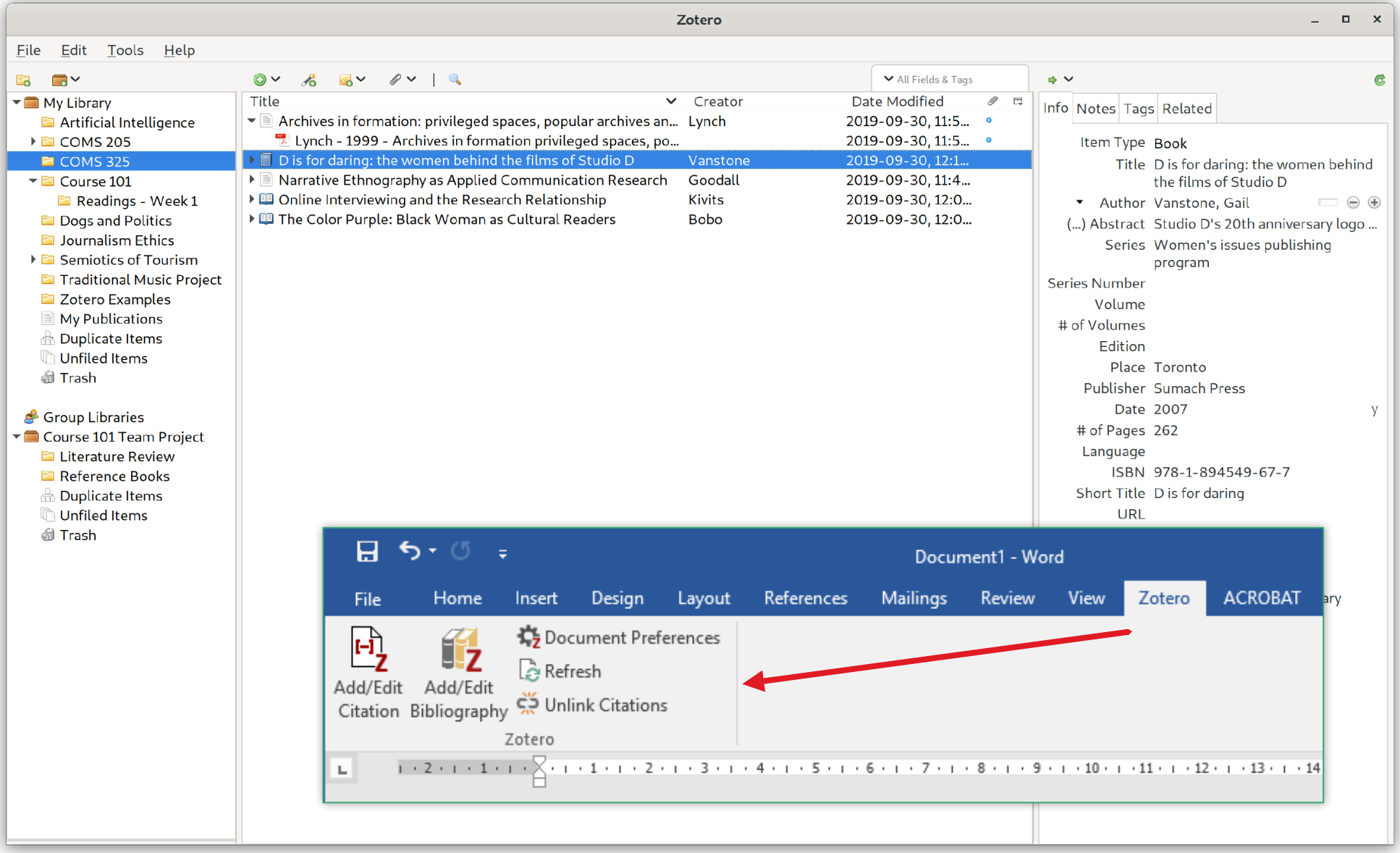
Chicago recommends including the date, resource, etc. For example:
"1. Text generated by ChatGPT, March 7, 2023, OpenAI, https://chat.openai.com/chat."

OpenAI says to disclose AI involvement and cite by stating something such as
"This article was generated with the help of GPT-3."



https://www.zotero.org

- Keeps track of your sources
- Creates your bibliographies *for you* in your chosen style
- Easily insert citations while you're writing



How many questions did library staff answer last year?

10 000+

Getting help

In person at the reference desk

Consult a librarian

Subject guides

Online chat

Fig. Conversation. (Downey).