Agenda

1. Library website tools
2. Research sources
3. Background & context
4. Techniques for finding the information you need
5. Managing sources & citing
library.concordia.ca

From the home page:

• Sofia (library catalogue)
• Databases
• E-journals
• Research support
• Interlibrary loans
• Guides

Presentation practice rooms?
Key resources

**Communication Studies Subject Guide**

- Subject-specific databases, books, ebooks, etc.
  - bibliographic or full text
- Encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks
- Guides for courses, projects, writing, citation, etc.
- Librarian contact information

Go to the top menu:
Help & How-To -> Subject & course guides -> Communication Studies

Look under the **Humanities** heading

Avoid paywalls & access problems by connecting to through the library website.
Note: resources for online media (e.g. audio, video)
2. RESEARCH SOURCES
Consider types of sources

- Scholarly articles; peer reviewed
- Books (academic and non-academic)
- Non-print formats (Video, audio)
- Reference books (encyclopedias, handbooks, etc.)
- News sources
- Magazines and trade publications
- Government reports, publications
- NGO publications, associations, professional
- Traditional vs. new media formats
## Contrasting types of publications

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

Bibliographies in articles?
Specific journals?

Repositories (e.g. mediArxiv.org, Spectrum)

Sofia (Library catalogue)

Databases (e.g. Communication & Mass Media Complete)

Google Scholar, Semantic Scholar & other search tools (e.g. individual website searches)
3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT
Using an online encyclopedia

1. Go to the Library website and use Sofia
2. Find & connect to the International Encyclopedia of Communication
3. Try to find the full text of the article: Communication and Media Studies, History since 1968
4. Locate where the references used in this article appear
5. What university is the author affiliated with?
Online encyclopedia, 2

1. Use a different encyclopedia: International Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods

2. Find an entry in this encyclopedia about Visual Research Methods

NB: there are several ways to find the article in this encyclopedia.
Other reference sources

Oxford Bibliographies

• Annotated bibliographies
• Core works in communication and media studies
• Search by keyword or browse headings

Also consider consulting handbooks, dictionaries, etc.
4. TECHNIQUES FOR FINDING THE INFORMATION YOU NEED

*articles, books, databases*

Sofia
Finding books using Sofia (catalogue search/discovery)

1. Try a basic keyword search:
   media AND globalization

--- --- ---

2. Use the advanced search to help you build more complex expressions.
Sofia facets

Easily filter your results

Help with Sofia searching
https://library.concordia.ca/help/using/sofia/searching.php
Looking for works within a subject

• su:Research Methodology
• su:Proposal writing for grants
• su:Media and globalization
• su:Research Moral and Ethical Aspects
• su:Communication research methodology
• su:Scholarly Publishing
• su:Scholarly Electronic Publishing
• su:Universities and colleges
Successful searching: Sofia & databases
Boolean operators

**AND**

**OR**

**NOT**

Narrows search

Broadens search

Narrows search
# Search improvements

## Truncation * and other Wildcards ? #

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Sofia</th>
<th>EBSCO DBs (Communication &amp; Mass Media Complete)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>interview* = interview or interviews or interviewing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| #      | thes#s = thesís or theses  
(1 character) | encyclop#dia = encyclopaeedia or encyclopedia |
| ?      | col?rs = colors or colours or collars  
(0 – 9 characters, ?4) | wom?n = women or woman |

How do these symbols help find what you need?
Search improvements

Specific phrase “ ”

“reality television” = reality television
≠ television reality
Brainstorm & track synonyms, spellings, related words!

Do **audiences** perceive **reality television** as **authentic**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept:</th>
<th>authentic</th>
<th>audience</th>
<th>reality television</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Synonyms:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trustworthy</td>
<td></td>
<td>viewer</td>
<td>reality tv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>believable</td>
<td></td>
<td>spectator</td>
<td>reality show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sincerity</td>
<td></td>
<td>consumer</td>
<td>program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activity - Give it a try!

wordnik.com
thesaurus.com
wikipedia.org
wiktionary.org
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 content type (e.g. biographies, patents, sound)

B) Use Sofia
   This will provide similar options as the Databases by subject button
Database search example

(authent* or trust*) and (audienc* or view* or spectator*) and ("reality television" or "reality tv")

This works the same:
What do these do? Which is most useful?

*Remember: parentheses group concepts and have an impact on the order of operations*

(authent* OR trust*) AND ("reality television" OR "reality tv")

authent* OR audienc* AND ("reality television" OR "reality tv")

(authent* OR trust*) AND (audienc* AND view* AND spectator*) AND "reality television"
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
5. MANAGING SOURCES, CITING, AND ADDITIONAL HELP
Citation styles

• Used to compile bibliographies in academic works (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

Concordia how-to guides on academic citing
library.concordia.ca/help/citing
Manage all your research sources

Creates your bibliographies *for you* in your chosen style

Easily insert citations while you’re writing

www.zotero.org
Getting help

In person at the reference desk
Consult a librarian
Subject guides
Online chat