

Library Workshop

COMS 325 Approaches to Communication Research

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Using works cited and bibliographies

Check the works cited and bibliographies that you may already have on hand. Often these are good starting points for research as the citations cited in the bibliographies have been selected for their value.

Finding Books on Methodology

Results may be limited by material type, campus, internet accessibility.

Subject headings in the Library catalogue that are related to methodology include:

Culture methodology	Ethnology methodology
Mass media research methodology	Social sciences research methodology
Culture research	Interviewing in Ethnology
Participant observation	Interviewing in Sociology
Discourse analysis	Interviewing
Communication research methodology	Content Analysis
Focus Groups	Qualitative Research Methodology

Books on methodology may also be found by doing keyword searches in the catalogue, for example:

[Archiv* method* research](#)
[Internet research method*](#)
[Audience research method*](#)
[Interview method* research](#)
[Digital research method*](#)

[SAGE Research Methods Online Database](#)

This database provides full-text access to chapters of books, encyclopaedias, handbooks, journal articles and videos on research methodologies. You may browse by major work (ex: *Sage Qualitative Research Methods*), content type such as encyclopaedias (ie: *Sage Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods*), by methodology (use Methods Browse under Methodologies tab), or search using keyword.

[International Encyclopedia of Communication Online](#)

An important encyclopedia in communication studies with short articles on different methodologies. Additional media and communication studies encyclopedias may be accessed via the [Communication Studies Research Guide](#).

[International Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods](#)

Aimed at communication scholars, this encyclopedia covers qualitative and quantitative methods, data collection, and data analysis.

Scholarly Journal Articles

The purpose of scholarly journal articles is to report and disseminate research. The targeted audience is other scholars and researchers. Use a database to find scholarly journals on a research topic. Databases that cover communication and cultural studies very well include:

[Communication and Mass Media Complete](#)

[Communication Abstracts](#)

[Academic Search Complete](#)

[Sociological Abstracts](#)

[Taylor and Francis Online Journals](#)

[Sage Journals Online](#)

[JSTOR](#)

[Project Muse](#)

Depending on your topic there may be other databases relevant to your research, such as: Historical Abstracts, America History and Life, Language and Linguistics Behavior Abstracts. Check the [database list in CLUES](#) for lists of databases by discipline and by type.

Citing Your Sources

Citing your sources provides integrity to your work. Guides to citation style are available at:

<http://library.concordia.ca/help/howto/citations.html>

Zotero

Zotero is a free citation management application, which you can use to manage research, references, and to automatically create bibliographies in the style of your choice. You can easily import bibliographic information from many databases, Google scholar, websites, etc. into Zotero. For more information go to:

<https://library.concordia.ca/help/citing/zotero/>