INTRODUCTION TO CONCORDIA
LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR JOURNALISM
DIPLOMA STUDENTS

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Today

The Concordia Library’s spaces

Types of resources and their uses

Where and how to look for resources

**Practice** searching the Library’s collections

Citing and additional research resources
Library buildings

3 buildings: Vanier (Loyola), Webster & Grey Nuns (downtown)

Most journalism-related materials are here

3 floors
  ◦ 1st floor has circulation and reference desks
  ◦ 1st and 2nd have computer workstations
  ◦ main stacks and study rooms on the 2nd and 3rd

Webster has similar facilities +
  ◦ Presentation practice rooms
  ◦ Tech sandbox and visualization studio
Types of resources

Print and electronic versions of:

Reference sources

Monographs (books)

Serial publications and periodicals
  ◦ academic journals
  ◦ popular and trade magazines
  ◦ newspapers

Other sources, especially online
Reference sources

Dictionaries, encyclopedias, & handbooks

For checking facts
- definitions and meanings
- dates of historical events
- how something is done

For an introduction to a topic

Statistics, almanacs, biographies

Business information, etc.
Monographs

Single, comprehensive works on a specific topic

Written by one author or many

Cover many aspects; provide an overview of the history, research, and viewpoints

Academic monographs written by authors with domain expertise and are thoroughly edited
Serials: academic journals

Comprise multiple, separate articles by different authors

Focus on a **subject** area

Authors are experts, articles are (typically) **peer-reviewed**

Audience is other **experts** in the field

Often report and discuss **findings** of one investigation
  - original research, specific research question
  - narrower focus, greater detail

More **current** than books
Serials: news & magazines

- Comprise multiple articles—maybe or maybe not on related topics
- Not necessarily written by subject experts
- Intended for a broader public audience
- For information or entertainment
- Primary sources that provide evidence of events, how they are discussed / popular perspectives
Other types of sources

- Government documents and reports
- Data and statistics
- Legal information: rulings, statutes, regulations
- NGO publications

Consider different formats:
- Audio and video sources

Often online—verifying your sources is essential
Beginning your search

Determine keywords and concepts

Identify synonyms

Start with what you have:
  ◦ known titles
  ◦ known authors
  ◦ citations from articles or book chapters
  ◦ ...check a reference source!

Chose a place to search according to resource type
Where to find resources

From the home page:

- Library catalogue (named CLUES)
- Databases
- Discovery search
- Subject guides
Search Techniques
Search techniques

When searching for phrases, use quotation marks:
- for example, “News of the World”
- otherwise, searches for all words separately

Change the search field:
- Keyword
- Title
- Subject
- Author
- etc.
Search techniques

Search for variant word endings with *

Journal* = journals or journalism or journalist, etc.

Or missing / alternative words:

“chief * officer” = chief executive officer or chief financial officer or chief operating officer
Search techniques

Boolean operators:

**AND:** words on either side must be present
  ◦ Uber AND taxi

**OR:** one of two words must be present
  ◦ film OR movie
Search techniques

Boolean operators:

- NOT: omits results containing the following word
  - documentary NOT film

Nest multiple operators with parentheses:

- documentary AND (film OR photography)
- Different than: documentary AND film OR photography
George Boole’s hair...

AND

OR

NOT
Search techniques

Common to catalogue and database searching:

Search functions:

“ ”, *,

Try using different search fields

Using Boolean operators:

AND, OR, NOT ( )

Learn from your results and refine
PRACTICE SEARCHES
Searching: reference sources

Reference sources can be found in the Library catalogue using keywords for type and topic, ie:

◦ Encyclop*, dictionary*, handbook*
  AND
◦ Media, communication*, journalis*

Subject guides feature pre-selected reference titles

◦ On the journalism subject guide, under “Reference Books About Journalism,” click “More...”
Searching: CLUES (Library catalogue)

- Search for keywords, titles, authors, subjects
- Find similar materials using the subject heading links
- Apply Boolean operators to expand or focus your search
- Try the catalogue’s filters material type and location
Searching: journal databases

Subject-specific databases (DB) of academic journal articles (+ other documents)

Find DBs through the:
- Databases by subject (via library homepage)
- CLUES (library catalogue)
- Subject guides (by discipline)

Interfaces look different but work similarly

Specialized filters for search results
Searching: news databases

Similar to article databases in look and function

There may be delays on the content

Sometimes only plain-text is available, but sometimes an image of the article as-printed is available

Two specialized databases to know of are Eureka.cc (good for Canadian and Québécois content) and Factiva, which includes business information
Online sources

Include statistics, government documents, legal information, and more

Links to many reliable sources can be found on library subject guides
ADDITIONAL RESEARCH HELP & CITING
Discovery search

Searches many different types of library resources simultaneously—but not all

Attention is required to differentiate items in results
  ◦ Many filters are available to help with this

Good for known item searching

Not a one-stop solution
Evaluating (online) sources

Authorship
  ◦ Is the author qualified?
  ◦ Reputable?

Intended audience? Purpose? ...bias?

Currency?

Accuracy—are claims verifiable?
  ◦ Are references provided?
Advanced Google searching

Google recognizes some search operators:
- “ ”, -, OR

There is an advanced search page

Useful search options after-the-fact:
- Region
- Date / time
- Verbatim search results

Be aware of “personalized” results
We think about attribution differently...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journalism</th>
<th>Academic writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Don’t attribute</strong></td>
<td><strong>Don’t attribute</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Facts</td>
<td>◦ Facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Verifiable independently</td>
<td>◦ Common knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Do attribute</strong></td>
<td>◦ Events, dates, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Opinions / points of view</td>
<td>◦ A copy of the text from another document, web site, or book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Information that might change</td>
<td>◦ Paraphrasing someone’s words or idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Allegations</td>
<td>◦ Images, graphs, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ For credibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Citing work in an academic context

To credit original authors, show that work is supported by research, and let others follow-up.

Concordia how-to guides on academic citing
- https://library.concordia.ca/help/citing/

Directly from the style guides

Other institutions’ sites, especially Purdue OWL

APA style blog, Chicago Manual online
Organize your research & cite the easy way!

https://www.zotero.org
What is Zotero?


- Keeps track of your sources
- Creates your bibliographies for you in your chosen style
- Easily insert citations while you’re writing
Getting help

In person at the reference reference desk

Consult a librarian

Subject guides

Online chat

Fig. Conversation. (Downey).