

ENC 1122 Honors Library Research Methods  
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To **find a book** (circulating, reference, and/or electronic) for an introductory examination of a topic:  
- Visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/central/libonline/> >>> click on **#4 Library Catalog** >>> it helps sometimes to narrow your search for items located on the **Gibbs campus** or to a certain **format, date, and/or language** >>> conduct a **subject, title** or **keyword** search?

Conducting a **subject** search for **criminal mind** will display 0 results. Try a **keyword (exact phrase)** search for **criminal mind**. The keyword search will look everywhere throughout the bibliographic record. It also helps to add more specific keywords and/or an appropriate subject heading to your search.

**To find appropriate subject headings** (Precise, more scholarly research):

- You can click on the **Browse Lists** button inside the Library Catalog and search for other subject terms. Discovering other subject terms can help you narrow or even broaden your topic. (e.g. **subject begins with ... criminal mind** will be better searched as **criminal behavior**).
- Or you can use the four volume print set found in the Reference section and search within the **Library of Congress Subject Headings**.
- Or you can do a basic or advanced search within the library catalog and notice other hyperlinked subject headings.

You can add **Boolean operators** (i.e. AND, OR, NOT) easily in the **Advanced Search** mode. Boolean operators help to combine and/or eliminate concepts and keywords. For example, searching for **profil\*** (keyword with truncation) AND **criminal behavior** (Subject) for **2004-2007** will display 1 result.

Search by: Keyword   
and Subject   
and Author   
At: St. Petersburg College   
Exact phrase:  No  Yes (Applies to all search fields)  
   
Limit search by (optional)   
Format:   
Language:   
Year:  Year to:  (1995 to 1999, 199?, 2004)

[AND = both terms/phrases must be present (this will narrow your search results). You could use OR to find synonymous terms/concepts or NOT to eliminate certain terms/phrases.]

**Find Electronic Books via NetLibrary:** Visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/central/libonline/> >>> click on **#5 Ebooks** >>> **name =spc** and **password =**\_\_\_\_\_. (Note: You are now able to search for all of our electronic books (over 52,000 titles) within our main library catalog! However, using netLibrary will allow you also to search within the Full Text of the electronic book.)

- Try an advanced Search for: **genetic engineering** (subject) AND **genetic\* modified food\*** (full Text).

Subject	genetic engineering	And	?
Full-Text	genetic* modified food*	And	
Keyword		And	
Publisher			
<b>Search</b>		<b>Clear</b>	

**To find articles in journals, magazines, newspapers and more:**

- Visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/central/libonline/> >>> click on **#1 Articles & Databases** >>> Name is **spc** and the password is \_\_\_\_\_ >>> Here you will find several databases. (**Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center** and **Facts.com (Issues and controversies)** are great “browsing” resources, **Academic Search Premier**, **America’s Newspapers**, **JStor**, **CQ Researcher**, et al. are good first choices as well.)
- Or, if the power goes out, you can search a printed index (locate older articles) like the **Readers’ Guide to Periodical Literature**, **Social Sciences & Humanities Index**, **New York Times Index** etc.

**Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center:** viewpoint articles, contextual topic overviews, government and organizational statistics, biographies of social activists, court cases, profiles of government agencies and special interest groups, newspaper and magazines articles etc.

- Browse the large issue list to generate general topic ideas. (e.g **illegal immigrants**)
- Review the “Spotlight On” Archives (hot social issues.)
- Try an advanced search for (subject) **illegal immigr\*** AND (Full-text) **"united states" policy (limit dates: 2004 – 2007)**.
- **Note:** The Research Guide and Toolbox offer useful research tips.

**America’s Newspapers:** full-text articles from the electronic editions of record for more than 700 U.S. newspapers. Browse “Hot Topics” and “Special Reports” for ideas. Search example: Select “United States” and then search in the headlines for **climate change** AND **china** in all the text within the last 7 days.

**SEARCHING: United States** 769 titles - [More Information](#)

for: climate change in Headline

AND china in All Text

return: Most recent matches first

timeframe: the past 7 days

custom date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Search Premier:** largest scholarly, multi-disciplinary full text database containing full text for nearly 4,650 serials, including more than 3,600 peer-reviewed publications.

- Confirm subject terms/headings: “Term begins with” **outsourcing**. (Use **contracting out**).
- Advanced search: **contracting out** (SU Subject) AND **unemployment** (Default fields)

Find:  in

and  in

and  in

in

**Refine Search** | **Search History/Alerts** | **Results**

**Limit your results:**

Full Text

References Available

Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals

- Refine search: add **unemployment w5 united states** (TX All text).
- Visual Search: **homeland security** >>> Show Filters >>> change publication after date to Jan 1, 2006.

\*\*\* **Note:** Although many articles are now available in full-text, you may still find some that are in a printed format (i.e. bound in book form). If the article is not in full-text you will need to determine if our library owns that particular volume. A librarian will help you locate articles not in full text. **JSTOR** is another database that can be helpful when searching for older articles.

**JStor:** The scholarly journal archive.

- Advanced Search: **music therapy** (exact phrase) AND **effects** (At least one word) while limiting to articles from music journals and eliminate reviews.

**Finding information via the World Wide Web (WWW):** (Note): If you do research via the World Wide Web please consider the following:


- Anyone can create a website.
- Can you clearly determine who has written the article? Do they have subject expertise?
- Is the website relevant to your research? Is it comprehensive? Up-to date? Biased?
- Can the information be verified?

Use a search engine. **Google** is an excellent choice. Or you can visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/central/libonline/> and click on **#3 Search Engines** for a wide-ranging list of search engines. Also, check out our **Subject Guides**.

- Google Advanced search: (all the words) **biotechnology impact** (without) **terrorism** (Domain) **.edu**
- [www.scholar.google.com](http://www.scholar.google.com): search peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts and articles. Try a search for **biotechnology influence "human values"** – Notice the **Jstor** citations!

**Don't forget to cite your sources!**

- Visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/central/libonline/> >>> click on **#6 Citing Sources** >>> this will help you cite your sources properly.
- The Landmark Citation Machine ([www.citationmachine.net](http://www.citationmachine.net)) can be helpful, but keep in mind that it will not produce flawless citations.
- **Note:** Some databases (e.g. *Academic Search Premier*) will generate citations when a researcher saves an article. However, it is important to confirm that the citation is correct via the *Little Brown Handbook*, MLA or APA handouts, or other sources.

Don't forget to  **ASK a Librarian** ... Librarians are available to help every person within the library and even in cyberspace select and effectively use the library's resources!