Navigating the Hybrid World: Going from Paper-Based to Paper-less Library Research Assignments

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About the University

● 30,236 Students (Fall 2011)
● 1,731 Faculty (Fall 2011)
● 4,832 bachelors’ degrees
● 2,479 masters’ degrees
About the Library
About the Major and Course

- Communication Studies
  - 450 major students
  - 70 minor students
  - 60 graduate students
  - 50 faculty members
  - 40 library sessions per year

- COMM 80: Speech Communication Lab
  - 5-10 sections each semester
  - 200-400 students per year
  - Lab modules, including library research
Assignment: Before

Research and Evidence
Communication 80 - Information Literacy Module

This exercise is designed to encourage you to explore the library catalog and databases. Databases serve as indexes to journal articles and sometimes provide the full-text article. As you work through these questions, you may have to try several different search features or strategies before you achieve satisfactory results. Please complete this exercise in SJSU’s King Library reference area on the second floor. You may ask for help (but not answers) at the reference desk. For this exercise, you will need to make one printout, for which there is a small charge.

1. Locate the library database named Communication & Mass Media Complete. To do this, go to library’s home page, www.library.sjsu.edu, and select “Articles & Databases.” Databases are listed alphabetically by title and by subject area.

   From within the Communication & Mass Media Complete database, type the phrase “public speaking” (including the quotation marks) in the first search box and change the pull-down menu to “SU Subject Terms.” Under “Limit your results” check the box for “Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals.” Click on “Search.”

   HOW MANY RESULTS DID YOU RETRIEVE? ________________________________

   Note: Journals that are peer-reviewed require that all articles submitted for publication are evaluated by subject experts and either accepted or rejected.

2. Add the word anxiety to your search by entering it into the second search box. Again, select “SU Subject Terms” from the pull-down menu on the right. Click on “Search.”

   HOW MANY RESULTS DID YOU RETRIEVE IN THIS REVISED SEARCH? __________

   Note: Notice how the results are organized. Unlike in Google, they are listed by date (most recent first), NOT by relevance.

3. Review the records retrieved and locate one article from the Communication Education.

   ARE FULL-TEXT ARTICLES FROM THIS JOURNAL AVAILABLE IN THIS DATABASE? ______________
Departmental Needs

● Losing COMM Lab space
  ○ More services needed to go online
    ■ Less physical space, more digital space
      ● Tutors and modules for COMM 80
  ○ Expanding modules
    ■ 30 minutes turned into 2 hours
      ● Sub-modules
    ■ Embedded in Desire2Learn
Assignment: After
Library Research Module

Part One: Topic Development

Objective

In the exercises for this module, you will use the examples of the death penalty and assisted suicide to go over how to develop your topic idea, choose search terms, evaluate websites, and use the library’s resources to find books and articles on your topic.

Directions

This complete module consists of five (5) parts. Read the information provided in each section then complete the exercises. Once Part Five has been submitted, go to the Center where a Coach will review all your answers with you. You may be asked to revise and resubmit your work.

1. Submit the document via the proper Dropbox ("Library Research Part One") in the COMM 80 D2L space
   ○ Remember, name the file with your SJSU Student ID number and include both your name and ID at the top of the document.
   ○ Save as RTF, DOC, or DOCX format; all other file formats will not be viewed.

Note: You must complete all these abovementioned steps to earn credit for one activity towards COMM 80. Carefully read the directions for each exercise.

Exercise

Please watch the following tutorial before beginning the exercise below:

http://www.wou.edu/provost/library/cllp/tutorials/dev_topic.htm

1. Write down a few ideas or words that you would associate with the topic of “assisted suicide.”
2. Use those words to form a question that you think resources about assisted suicide would help you answer

Please view this interactive concept map to learn more about finding search terms about a topic: http://www.spicynodes.org/a/9e1dad8a2069b576f8a7c7d999355f3

Coming up with good terms to use when searching on the web and in the library’s databases can mean the difference between finding excellent sources and weeding through a lot of irrelevant information. Putting some thought into the words or phrases you want to use and doing a little background research on your topic can help you find better resources.

3. Write down three synonyms or related terms that might help you when looking for information on assisted suicide.
4. Do a few quick internet searches on assisted suicide and find these key political figures, court rulings, or other important pieces of information that you could use to focus your future searches on the topic. (Hint: put phrases like “assisted suicide” inside quotation marks to get better search results. This works in Google and the library’s databases)
5. In either APA or MLA style, cite one of the websites where you found the information above.

(For help citing sources, look at the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL). In the sidebar on the left, there are links to both MLA and APA citation guides: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl)
Sub-Modules

Topic Development
Evaluating Websites
Using the Library Catalog
Finding Scholarly, Peer Reviewed Articles
  a. Academic Search Premier
Using Library Databases
  a. ProQuest Newsstand
  b. CQ Researcher
  c. Opposing Viewpoints
Engaging Items Used

● SpicyNodes
  ○ [http://www.spicynodes.org/a/9c1dad8a2069b576f8a7c7df999355f3](http://www.spicynodes.org/a/9c1dad8a2069b576f8a7c7df999355f3)

● Classic Library Tutorials
  ○ CLIP
    ■ Topic Development
  ○ SJSU
    ■ Library Catalog
    ■ Finding Scholarly, Peer Reviewed Articles

● CRAAP Test
Ann's Shiny Stuff

libguides.sjsu.edu/tools
Best Practices & Pitfalls

Things to consider

● Goals of the Assignment
● Interactivity vs. Time Management
  ○ Each of the fun/interactive items involves an investment of time. Choose wisely.
● Accessibility
  ○ Many of the "fun" items are not designed to meet accessibility standards
Questions? Comments?

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