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Lesson Proper for Week 5

Searching for Articles in Journals and Magazines

The Internet helps you find articles in online journals and magazines.

Note: The best source for academic journals is your library's database collection.

Online Journals

You can find online journals in one of three ways:

- First, access your favorite search engine and use a keyword search for "journals" plus the name of your subject. For example, one student accessed AltaVista and used a keyword search for "journals + fitness." The search produced links to twenty online journals devoted to fitness, such as *Health Page*, *Excite Health*, and *Physical Education*. Another student's search for "women's studies + journals" produced a list of relevant journals, such as *Feminist Collections*, *Resources for Feminist Research*, and *Differences*. By accessing one of these links, the student can examine abstracts and articles.
- · Second, access a search engine's subject directory. In Yahoo!, for example, one student selected Social Science from the key directory, then clicked "Sociology," and journals, to access links to several online journals, such as *Edge: The E-Journal of Intercultural Relations* and *Sociological Research Online*.
- · Third, if you already know the name of a journal, go to your favorite search engine to make a keyword query, such as "Contemporary Sociology," which will link you to the social science journal of that name.



Several directories exist for discovering articles in magazines.

- **Magazine-Directory** lists magazine home pages where you can begin your free search in that magazine's archives. For example, you can search *The Atlantic, Harper's*, or *Newsweek*.
- · **Highbeam Research** has a good search engine, but it requires membership (which is free for one month). Remember to cancel your membership after you finish your research.
- **Pathfinder** gives you free access to several popular online magazines such as *Time, People,* and *Fortune.*
- **ZD Net** provides excellent access to industry-oriented articles in banking, electronics, computers, management, and so on. It offers two weeks of free access before charges begin to accrue.

Searching for Articles in Newspapers and Media Sources

First, to find almost any newspaper in the United States, even the local weeklies, consult usnpl.com. This site takes you to the *Aspen Times* or the *Carbondale Valley Journal* or one of 800-plus other newspapers. In most cases, the online newspaper has its own internal search engine that enables you to examine articles from its archives. Figure 4.5 shows a page from the online site for a business newspaper. Most online newspaper sites have an Archives hyperlink, a feature that enables you to find articles from past issues.

Most major news organizations maintain Internet sites. Consult one of these:

The Chronicle of Higher Education presents news, information, and current issues in education.



Figure 4.5 Online site for business news.



- *CNN Interactive* maintains a good search engine that takes you quickly, without cost, to transcripts of its broadcasts. It's a good source for research in current events.
- · *C-SPAN Online* focuses on public affairs and offers both a directory and a search engine for research in public affairs, government, and political science.
- **Fox News** provides articles from its own network and also from news services such as Reuters and the Associated Press.
- · National Public Radio Online shares audio articles via RealPlayer as well as print articles.
- **The New York Times** is the largest metropolitan newspaper in the United States, with local and national content.
- USA Today has a fast search engine that provides information about current events.
- · **U.S. News Online & World Report** has a fast search engine and provides free, in-depth articles on current political and social issues.
- **Wall Street Journal** is a business-oriented site has excellent information, but it requires a subscription.
- The Washington Times provides up-to-the-minute political news.

To find other newspapers and online media, search for "newspapers" in a search engine. Your college library may also provide Lexis-Nexis, which searches news sources for you.

Searching for Photographs and Other Visual Sources

For some topics, you may want to find photographs or other visual sources as part of your research. A paper on representations of women in World War II propaganda posters, for example, would require visual evidence to support its thesis. In disciplines like history and art, visual sources might be central to your paper. For topics in U.S. history and culture, the Library of Congress has a comprehensive archive of visual and multimedia sources in its American Memory collection. Because of their persuasive power, images need to be selected and used carefully in any research paper.

The best place to begin searching for photographs and other visual sources is through a website devoted specifically to online images, such as Picsearch, or through the "images" link on a search engine.

Remember that visual sources, like all other sources, need to be carefully incorporated into your paper and properly documented. Photographs and other visual sources are copyrighted works like any other published source, and need to be cited to give proper credit to their creators.

Accessing E-books

Access to books online simplifies and speeds up your research by allowing you Web access to novels and resource books. Some of the best sources of full-text, online books are Project Gutenberg, JSTOR, and the Online Books Page at the University of Pennsylvania. These sites index books by author, title,

and subject. They also provide a search engine that will take you quickly, for example, to the full text of Thomas Hardy's *A Pair of Blue Eyes* or to Linnea Hendrickson's *Children's Literature: A Guide to the Criticism.* This site adds new textual material almost every day, so consult it first. Understand, however, that contemporary books, still under copyright protection, are not included. That is, you can freely download an Oscar Wilde novel but not one by Alice Walker.

Caution: Other sites offer e-books, but they are commercial and require a subscription.

Using Listserv, Usenet, Blogs, and Chat Groups

E-mail discussion groups have legitimacy for the exchange of academic ideas when everybody in the group has the same purpose, project, or course of study. Chat rooms seldom have academic value. Let's look at each briefly.

E-mail News Groups

The word listserv is used to describe discussion groups that correspond via e-mail about a specific educational or technical subject. For example, your literature professor might ask everybody in the class to join a listserv group on Victorian literature. To participate, you must have an e-mail address and subscribe to the list as arranged by your instructor.

In like manner, online courses, which have grown in popularity, usually have a discussion area where students are expected to participate by responding to general questions for the group or corresponding with each other about assignments, issues, and other topics. On the Blackboard system, for example, online students have a Discussion Board with any number of Forums where they may participate or where they are required to participate. At some point you may wish to join a list, and each site will explain the procedure for subscribing and participating via e-mail in a discussion.

Real-Time Chatting

Blogs, Usenet, and chat groups use Internet sites with immediate messaging rather than e-mail. To access Usenet, go to a website such as Yahoo! Messenger or Google Chat to launch the search. Typing "fitness" might take you to a reasonable discussion, yet some dialogue may not apply to your specific topic. Another way to find discussion groups is through a keyword search for "List of online chat groups" at one of the search engines. If you want a commercial site that requires a monthly fee, try usenetserver.com. However, *you cannot cite from these anonymous sources*, so they are best avoided for your academic work.



Most major libraries now offer online access to their library catalogs. This allows you to search their collections for books, videos, dissertations, audio tapes, special collections, and other items. However, you must open an account and use your identification to log in, just as you do with your college library. You may sometimes order books online through interlibrary loan. Additionally, some libraries now post full-text documents, downloadable bibliographies, databases, and links to other sites.

If you need identification of all books on a topic, as copyrighted and housed in Washington, DC, consult the Web page for the Library of Congress. This site allows you to search by word, phrase, name, title, series, and number. It provides special features, such as an American Memory Home Page, full-text legislative information, and exhibitions, such as Lincoln's "Emancipation Proclamation."

For an Internet overview of online libraries, their holdings, and addresses, you might consult LIBCAT or LIBWEB. These sites take you to home pages of academic, public, and state libraries. You will be prompted for a public-access login name, so follow the directions for entering and exiting the programs. Another type of online library is IngentaConnect. This site provides a keyword search of 17,000 journals by author, title, or subject. Copies of the articles can be faxed to you, usually within the hour, for a small fee.

Finding an Internet Bibliography

You can quickly build a bibliography on the Internet in two ways: by using a search engine or by visiting an online bookstore.

Search Engine

At a search engine on the Internet, such as AltaVista, enter a descriptive phrase, such as "Child Abuse Bibliographies." You will get a list of bibliographies, and you can click on one of them, such as Child Abuse, Child Abuse Articles, or Child Abuse Reports.

Clicking on the hypertext address will carry you to a list:

Child Abuse Statistics

Child Abuse and Law

Child Sexual Abuse

Risk Assessment

Conducting Archival Research on the Internet

The Internet has made possible all kinds of research in library and museum archives. You may have an interest in this type of work. If so, consider several ways to approach the study.

Go into a library and ask about the archival material housed there, or use the library's electronic catalog. Most libraries have special collections. The Stanford University Library, for example, offers links to antiquarian books, old manuscripts, and other archives. It also provides ways to find material by subject, by title, and by collection number. It carries the researcher to a link, such as the London (Jack) Papers, 1897 1916, at the Online Archive of California. These can be accessed by Internet if the researcher has the proper credentials for entering and using the Stanford collection.

Go to an Edited Search Engine

An edited search engine, such as Yahoo!, may give you results quickly. For example, requesting "Native American literature + archives" produced such links as:

American Native Press Archives

Native American History Archive

Native Americans and the Environment

Indigenous Peoples' Literature

Sayings of Chief Joseph

One or more of these collections might open the door to an interesting topic and enlightening research. You might also search the directory and subdirectories of a search engine to take you deeper into the files.

Go to a Metasearch Engine

A metasearch engine such as Dogpile offers a way to reach archival material. Make a keyword request, such as "Native American literature + archives." Dogpile will list such sites as Reference Works and Research Material for Native American Studies. There, the Native American Studies

Collections offer several valuable lists:

Native American Studies Encyclopedias and Handbooks

Native American Studies Bibliographies

Native American Studies Periodical Indexes

Native American Biography Resources

Native American Studies Statistical Resources

Links to other Native American sites on the Internet

Links to Usenet discussion groups related to Native Americans



Thus, the researcher would have a wealth of archival information to examine. One site, for example, carried a researcher to the Red Earth Museum (see Figure 4.6).

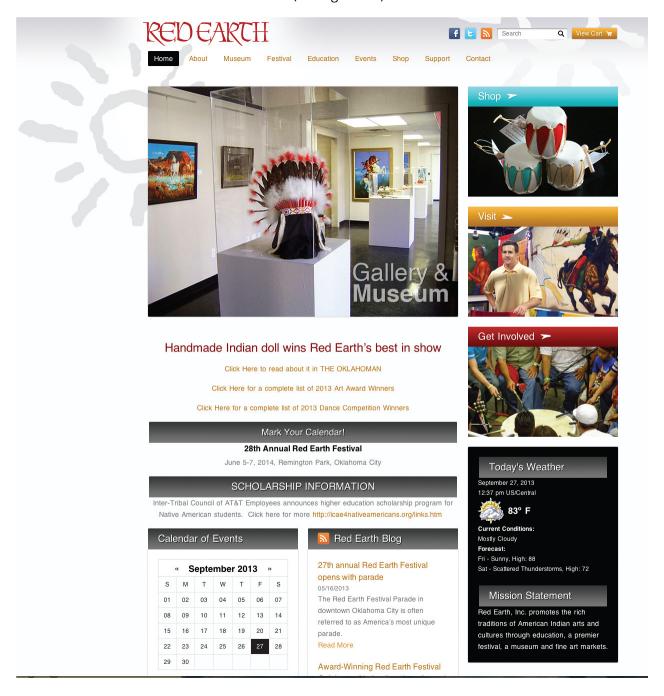


Figure 4.6 The home page of the Red Earth Museum, where a student might find archival information on Native Americans.

Go to a Listserv or Usenet Group

Using a search engine, simply join your topic with the word listserv: "Native American literature listserv." The search engine will produce such links as Native-L: Native Literature listserv and archives. By following the proper procedures, you can log on and begin corresponding. Participants might quickly point you in the direction of good topics and sources for developing the paper.

Utilize Newspaper Archives

After you locate a newspaper of interest, use the newspaper's search engine to explore its archives of articles.

YOUR RESEARCH PROJECT

- To look for an online discussion group on your topic, go to a metasearch engine; however, before entering your subject, select the button for searching newsgroups rather than the Web. Explore the choices.
- 2. Voice of the Shuttle is a large and powerful search engine for educational information. Enter this site and search for your topic.
- 3. When you have found an Internet article directly devoted to your subject, apply to it an evaluation. Ask yourself, "Does this site have merit?" Apply that same test to other Internet articles as you find them.
- 4. Practice using the Bookmark feature of your browser. That is, rather than printing an article from the Internet, bookmark it instead for future reference.
- 5. As you would with library sources, begin making bibliography entries and writing notes about promising Internet sources. Begin building a computer file of promising sources, develop a folder of printouts from the Internet, and save pertinent information you will need for your bibliography entries later on.

■ Preliminary Activity for Week 5

Jump to...

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Courses



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2nd Semester Enrollment













