

MAT 200C

Research Tactics

and other practical actions

for artistic and academic agendas

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today:

1. please email me the 15 minute papers from last class
2. how to find papers
3. summarization exercises
4. interview homework

Usually easier to start with a particular journal or particular article.

- identify unusual phrases, jargon that indicates a sub-field of interest
- most technical papers require a detailed related work section, so can work backward from there
- many conferences have their proceedings online (everyone should do this... online papers are cited more often)

UCSB Library → off-campus access

UCSB Library → Article Database

ACM Digital Library

IEEE Xplore

JSTOR

**(if looking for a particular paper, start with google scholar
to get info and then use library to access it)**

**If you don't know which of the databases has your journal,
use**

**UCSB Library → Electronic Journals
and search for the title of the journal to see if you can
get online access.**

**UCSB Library → Article Database
Academic Search Complete, way to look up terms across
all disciplines**

Goal for multimedia researchers:

how to identify relevant information quickly...

how to have insider information about

the most prestigious journals, the most widely talked about articles, the hot topics, the major players, etc etc.

important, because certain topics, phrases, agendas will clearly mark you as outsider or as an amateur, which may limit your ability to communicate.

Of course, you will often be an outsider if you are working between fields or in an evolving field, but you want to be able to indicate that you are an equal participant.

So... how to get this information?

- 1) ask an expert ... what are the most important conferences/journals? what topics are most exciting?**
- 2) look at the CV of people you respect, where do they publish/present?**

Exercise:

- 1) Find the most respected journals & conferences that discuss face tracking techniques. Provide examples of papers.**
- 2) Find the most respected journals & conferences that discuss surveillance in an artistic context. Provide examples of papers.**

Can you identify important people in these fields? Can you identify interesting current trends?

Exercise:

Best Papers...

interpretive summarization:

factual - information relevant to you

rhetorical - "paper patterns"

summarize the most important parts that are potentially relevant to your research. contextualize it in terms of your own research agendas.

when you are reading a paper, you are learning about
specific research

but also about how to present research effectively to a
particular community

about how to frame arguments

about what arguments are worthwhile

about what rhetorical strategies are appropriate

about what research agendas are pursued

etc, etc.

"Interpretive Summary"

1. Skim the paper

find or make up some relationship between your work and the paper.

2. Find "Paper Patterns"

identify general and specific patterns used in the paper to make arguments

3. Interpretive Summary

write a summary of both the interesting points and of the broader research techniques and how they relate to your work.

why would you cite this paper and what parts would you cite?

what questions do you have?

what do you understand or do not understand?

how do you evaluate the paper's conclusions and main points (using multiple evaluation metrics)?

Homework (due next Thursday):

Interview 3 people from fields different than your own. ask each of them:

- 1) to summarize their research
- 2) why and how specifically their research is important, why they are passionate about it
- 3) who the most important people in their fields are and why; who are interesting younger researchers and why
- 4) what conference they go to or want to go to, what are the most prestigious journals/conferences in their field/sub-field

Homework (due Tuesday)

Investigate possible journals that have CFPs within the time frame of this class.

Post an entry about at least 3 of them, why they look interesting, why your work would be relevant to those audiences, i.e. evaluate them in relation to your own interests and research agendas.

Presentation Exercise

10 minutes to prepare a 3-minute Powerpoint. Include things such as:

Your main point, Why it's important, Why audience should care, Quotes, Graphics, Bullet points, etc

For the people who are not presenting, evaluate them according to different criteria and explain why you think that criteria is important. e.g.. relevance, creativity, originality, concept, clarity, speaking prowess... These will be anonymous, btw