

# Digital Footprint Assignment Instructions

1. I have a personal website, so I assume it should be able to detect me.  
Additionally, I have two active accounts on X.com, which should also be visible. Even though I don't use it, my Facebook account should also be detectable. Furthermore, I have one publication that needs to be detected, along with some other accounts scattered here and there.
2. After analyzing the misleading results, I found a common theme that all of them relate to my father's website and publications. To obtain more relevant results, I also need to remove the last part of my last name.
3. The results of what I've added or excluded while I am searching can be seen in the following table:

	Habib Ghaffari Hadigheh	Habib Ghaffari -Alireza	Habib Ghaffari -Alireza +McMaster	Habib Ghaffari -Alireza +McMaster -CUPE
Google	20	22	23	7
Duk Duk Go	30 (This is pretty surprising)	30	30	2
Bing	20	25	27	27x

*How did the results of your self-search compare with your predicted results (did anything surprise you)?*

It is what I expected. I already know that I exposed myself in public through my website, social media accounts, and publications. The general theme on the selected search engines almost matched this.

*How did different operators improve or hinder your search?*

I attempted to remove my father's name from the search results on Google, which worked by increasing the number of results. Adding the term 'McMaster' had a similar effect. However, when I tried to remove the CUPE results from Google, it

didn't work. Increasing the filters had a negative effect on the results on 'DuckDuckGo' as well.

***Which search engines/operator combinations were most effective, and why do you think this was?***

I feel like Bing's search results are more accurate because they include all of the platforms I use. This is likely due to their advanced AI technology.

***If someone (such as a potential employer) were to search your name, would they develop a positive or negative impression of you (consider how irrelevant results might mislead them)?***

Yes. I began providing an interface in public search results in 2017, with the goal of applying for Ph.D. positions. It has worked as it continues to present positive information about me.

***Of the relevant search results, how would you change them if you could? How could you go about changing them?***

I stopped adding academic content in 2020 and need to resume to remove irrelevant information.