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Week 2 Discussion – Search query and reference sources

1. Take one historical research topic - one you talked about last week, or one you are considering for a term project, or anything that interests you.
2. Break the research question into at least three concept terms as demonstrated in the text,
3. Identify 3-4 good database or reference sources for the topic, and talk about what kind of results you might obtain.

In your response(s) to colleagues, please feel free to suggest other resources from your own experience or from the text.

Topic:

How did the printers' marks used by Shakespeare's printers change over the course of his career and the decade or so immediately after his death? Were there changes in the marks used by individual printers? Did any of the printers attempt to leverage Shakespeare's 'brand identity' in their own marks as his fame increased? Are any other patterns discernable in the printers' marks (i.e., format, content, symbols, etc.).

Concepts:

Late 16th century or Elizabethan printer*

Early 17th century or Jacobean printer*

Shakespeare

Printer*

(Printer* marks or printer* devices or printer* imprint)

Resources:

Early English Books Online – EEBO

- Digitized primary sources

Hathi Trust Digital Library

- Digitized primary sources

Shakespeare: Internet Editions

- Digitized primary sources
- Secondary sources on Shakespeare's reputation, possibly info. on those who printed his plays

Folger Shakespeare Library

- Digitized primary sources
- Secondary sources on Shakespeare's reputation, possibly info. on those who printed his plays

The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare

- Names of printers and possibly Shakespeare's relationship with them
- More about the context surrounding the printing of the plays
- Secondary sources referencing Shakespeare's printers, more likely to find secondary sources related to Shakespearean studies generally

- General descriptions of printers' marks, devices, imprints
- Links to primary source websites

Europe 1450 to 1789: Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World

- Context of printing in England (specifically, London and Oxford) in the late 16th and early 17th centuries
- Possibly references to Shakespeare's printers
- Context of theatre in the Elizabethan and Jacobean eras and Shakespeare's place in it

Bibliography of British History: Tudor Period, 1485-1603

- Secondary sources relating to printing in England in the late 16th century
- Secondary sources relating to printers' marks in England in the late 16th century
- Secondary sources relating to Shakespeare's reputation in England in the late 16th century

Bibliography of British History: Stuart History, 1603-1714

- Secondary sources relating to printing in England in the early 17th century
- Secondary sources relating to printers' marks in England in the early 17th century
- Secondary sources relating to Shakespeare's reputation in England in the early 17th century

Oxford Dictionary of the National Biography

- Names and information about printers who printed Shakespeare's plays