

Name: _____

Grade: ___ out of 5 Points

Unit 5A Assignment: Serial Literature Searching

Part 1: Reviewing Databases



NOTE: When working on your final project, come back to this list of databases and use them to search for journal articles on your topic.

Directions


1. Go to www.esf.edu/moonlib - from the search box, choose the '**Databases**' tab and select the 'Browse Databases' link.

From the 'Find Database' page select the heading '**by Subject**'.

- a. Choose the Category – **General and Interdisciplinary**
- b. Choose the Sub-category - **General**

How many databases in our system are classified as '**General**'? _____

State your topic OR a topic of personal interest:

List three **General** databases you feel would be useful in locating information on your topic. (You must click  and look through the brief descriptions of the databases.)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

2. Go to www.esf.edu/moonlib - from the search box, choose the '**Databases**' tab and select the 'Browse Databases' link. Again, choose the '**by Subject**' heading. Review the other main categories (option 1). Based on your topic, which subject area will be most useful for your search (circle one).

Arts & Humanities

Business & Industry

Health Sciences

Sciences & Technology

Social Sciences

Choose a Sub-category that relates to the main Category you selected above. Click GO and read the brief descriptions of the databases. List four databases you feel would be useful in locating information on your topic.

For example, my Category is 'Science and Technology', Sub-category is 'Earth Sciences' and I will press GO and look at the databases in this category. The database Greenfile looks promising.

1. _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

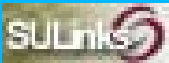
Part 2: Searching Databases, Locating Articles and Composing Citations

A. Searching Databases

From the main search box, choose the '**Databases**' tab. The default search is 'Find online databases by title'. Use this interface to locate the two required databases for this assignment.

B. Locating Articles

The citation found in a database will often provide several choices in article retrieval. These steps are provided in full detail as the handout entitled, "**Locating an Article**".

1. Full text from the citation (sometimes you will need to look for .pdf link).
2. Follow the SURLinks button. 
3. Check the catalog for **the journal title**. You can easily refine your search using the facets on the left.
4. Check the E-Journal Locator tab to see if this journal is available online. Search for the journal title.
5. Search for the **article title "in quotes"** using Google or another search engine. Some articles are available for free and a simple search will prove successful.
6. Request the document via interlibrary loan, using the online tool [Illiad](#).

Following these six steps will enable you to retrieve almost any article that you wish. Refer back to this assignment when conducting searches.


Part 3: Individual Database Searching

Your instructor may suggest particular databases relevant to your major and or topic. You will search two different databases and compose citations to one article per database.

Database 1: [Proquest Research Library](#)

Database 2: [Scopus](#)

Database 1 : [Proquest Research Library](#) General & Interdisciplinary

1. What are some subject areas that are covered by this database? (Hint: use the info button: )
2. What types of publications does this database search (e.g. newspapers, scholarly journals)?
3. What search options are available (e.g. basic, expert, keywords, truncation, etc.)?
4. What does a truncation symbol do? Which symbol is used in this database? (Hint: use the Help link.)
5. Does this database provide full text?

6. Using one of the search options provided, search for information on a topic of your choice. Specify here:

What search option did you chose and why? Write out your search (including any connections or punctuation used).

7. After conducting the search choose one **journal article** and record the citation information below. Make sure you select the tab .

- a) Author(s):
- b) Publication date:
- c) Title of article:
- d) Periodical Title (journal or magazine name:
- e) Volume: and issue:
- f) Page numbers:

Journal: Locating the article


8. Following the steps in the handout, “**Locating an Article**”, answer these questions for the article you cited above.

Can you retrieve full text of the article?

Is the journal and issue you need available in print in our libraries?

If in print what library has the journal and what is the call number?

Database 2 : [Scopus](#)
General & Interdisciplinary

1. What are some subject areas that are covered by this database? (Hint: use the info button: )
2. What types of publications does this database search (e.g. newspapers, scholarly journals)?
3. What search options are available (e.g. basic, expert, keywords, truncation, etc.)?
4. What is a wildcard? How are they used in Scopus? (Hint: use the Help button.)
5. Does this database provide full text?
6. Using one of the search options provided, search for information on a topic of your choice. Specify here:

What search option did you chose and why? Write out your search (including any connections or punctuation used).
7. After conducting the search choose one journal article and record the citation information below
 - g) Author(s):
 - h) Publication date:
 - i) Title of article:
 - j) Periodical Title (journal or magazine name:
 - k) Volume: and issue:
 - l) Page numbers:

Journal: Locating the article

8. Following the steps in the handout, “**Locating an Article**”, answer these questions for the article you cited above.

Can you retrieve full text of the article?

Is the journal and the issue you need available in print in our libraries?

If in print what library has the journal and what is the call number?

(remember to turn to next page!)

Part 4: Composing Citations

Directions

Using the directions and citation style sheet provided by your instructor, compose citations to two of the articles you've recorded citation information for. Attach a separate word processed document with these citations – paying very close attention to proper formatting. Make sure this sheet includes your name, section, instructor and date.