

Final Project: Your Search

Directions (READ these directions!! Yes, I mean YOU!!)

Using a topic you define and develop, follow the outline of steps below in the sequence presented and respond specifically and completely. This final project is **55%** of your final grade. You must follow **APA citation style** unless you have permission from me to use another citation style.

Your final project will have five parts:

1. **Introduction**
2. **Catalog searching log**
3. **Database searching log**
4. **Web searching log**
5. **Bibliography**

The parts are explained in detail below:

1. **Introduction – “Selecting and Developing a Topic” – refer to Unit 3 Assignment (5 Points)**

Write at least one coherent, cohesive **paragraph** summing up your researched topic. After this paragraph, include a **list of terms** you used when researching your topic. Provide a **full citation** (in correct APA format) for the style manual used to compile bibliography

2. **“Library Catalog Searching” – refer to Unit 4 Assignment (10 Points)**

Identify **books** on your topic by using the SUMMIT system to search SUNY ESF’s catalog, other library catalogs and WorldCat. Describe your search thoroughly! In describing your search process include search types, limits, search terms, search results and observations. You will need to identify at least 5 books from **3 different catalogs (SUMMIT, WorldCat and another library catalog)** and use the citations to these books in your bibliography.

3. **“Serial Literature Searching” – refer to Unit 5 Assignment (15 Points)**

Identify **serial literature** (i.e., journal articles) on your topic. Describe your search thoroughly! In describing your search process include databases considered, databases searched, search types, limits, search terms, search results and observations. **Search at least 5 different databases** and cite at least 5 articles from these databases in your bibliography.

4. **“Additional Resources” – refer to Unit 6 Assignment (10 Points)**

Identify **additional resources** (i.e. internet sites, people and/or organizations) on your topic. Describe your search thoroughly! In describing your search process include internet search engines used, search types, limits, search terms, search results and observations. You will need to search **one search engine, one subject directory and one metasearch engine** for internet site citations. In your bibliography, cite at least 5 additional resources including at least 3 sites identified from the various search tools mentioned above.

5. **“Creating a Bibliography” – refer to material presented in class. (15 Points)**

Compile a bibliography on your topic. This bibliography should be in alphabetical order by first entry in citation, follow APA format, and interfile all sources (that is, do not separate out books, journal articles, etc.). There should be at least 15 entries in this bibliography. Bibliography should start on a separate page and this page should be entitled “References”.

See back of sheet for sample research log.

Your research log should contain detailed information indicating where you searched for information, how you searched and your observations. I should be able to duplicate your research from your research log.

Compile your research log in the most coherent way you can. The chart below is just a suggestion. I must be able to duplicate your research from the information you provide!

Source	Search Terms	Type of Search	Limits	Results	Observations
Summit Catalog	Xxx xxx xxx	Keyword	Books, ESF only	11 books on my topic	Had to use the listed limits to...
Metasearch engine - Dogpile	Xxx xxx xxx	Basic – then used subject guides along right side.	None	77, once I clicked on narrowed topic along side	Nice search tool, but not as many hits as Google.