MCGHIE: ENGL B1A:

Professor Sondra Keckley,
Reference Librarian
Any Topic Related to Incarceration Nations

- Incarceration
- Race Discrimination
- Restorative Justice
- Prison Reform
- Criminal Justice
- Capital Punishment
- etc., etc....
Pre-research & narrowing down your topic…

Pre-Research Video
IT’S TIME FOR RESEARCH!
How to Develop Search Terms

• Find **key words or phrases** in your paper’s essential question.
  – The word or words that the question is about.
  – The important words related to your topic.

  – Example: How does someone’s poverty level affect their access to higher education?

  – What are the important words?

    How does someone’s **poverty** level affect their access to higher education?
How to Develop Search Terms

• Next you will develop a list of synonyms for these key words/ phrases.

• What are words we could use for higher education?

college, university, post-secondary education
Let’s See It In Action…

Developing Keywords Video
How to Develop Search Terms

• But what if the author uses colleges or universities?

• Truncation
  – Truncate = to shorten or take off at the end
  – Use * (Shift 8)

  college and colleges ----------- college*
  university and universities ----------- universit*
Boolean Operators

**AND**
- Finds information about both terms
- Narrows your search
- Makes your search more relevant

**OR**
- Finds information about either term
- Broadens your search

**NOT**
- Excludes information from your search
Subject Headings

• The library on-line catalog uses specific labels for subject headings/topics. It is expecting you to use those search terms.

• If you need help figuring out the right words to use, ask a Reference Librarian!
Library Resources With 24/7 Access
On-line Library Catalog

• BC Library Catalog
• Use to find non-fiction, reference, and e-books
• Use Basic “Subject begins with” search

To the library catalog!
eBooks

• Some search results for BC Library Catalog = eBooks (single user)

• Use BC eBook Collection for over 170,000 eBooks (multi-user) not accessible by Library Catalog
What Are Databases?
Databases

• Databases are searchable collections of reliable, vetted resources, like encyclopedias, magazines, academic journals, and newspapers.

• Not part of the visible Internet—Google doesn’t have access to these articles.

• We pay for access to the servers that host the database search-engines.
Recommended Databases

- Academic Search Complete
- MasterFILE Complete
- Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection
- Newspaper Source Plus
- Military & Government Collection
- America: History & Life

Academic OneFile

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS IN CONTEXT

CQ RESEARCHER
Getting to the Databases
From Home

Use your BC @ number, without the @ symbol.

To the Databases!
Give credit where credit is due!

Those weren’t your ideas!
How will I remember all this?!

• Use the Library’s navigation bar to access our LibGuides.

• Find in the English folder “ENGL B1A: Criminal Justice”