Ottum—MUSC B32: Sound Design

Sondra Keckley,
Reference Librarian
The Research Process
Why use books?

• When you think of research, what do you usually think of using to get your information?
• So, why use books?
  • More reliable than Internet due to vetting process of publication.
  • More focused content.
  • Index and table of contents make them easier and quicker to navigate.
  • Can check out and use at home.
  • Weakness=publishing process may take as long as 2 years, making some information less current.
Pre-Research: Get a Working Knowledge

“You have a working knowledge of a topic when you can talk about it for one minute without repeating yourself.” (Research Strategies, Badke, 2008, p.21)

Reference Books

- Examples: encyclopedia, dictionary, almanac, atlas, directory, handbook, thesaurus.
- Gives overview or background info on a topic.
- Quick access to facts.
- Not read cover to cover.
- Can’t be checked out.
- Found in bookcases with green labels.

- We have a LibGuide for Music Technology and Sound Design!

Time for More Research!
Library Resources with 24/7 Access
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 On-line Catalog

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

To the Library!
E-books

- Some search results for BC Library Catalog = e-books (single user)
- Use BC eBook Collection for over 170,000 e-books (multi-user) not accessible by Library Catalog

Recommended e-Books
What Are Databases?

**Databases vs. Internet Video**

- 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.
Magazines vs. Academic Journals

• Magazines
  • General Audience
  • Colorful pictures/ads
  • 6th grade reading level

• Academic Journals
  • Selected audience
  • Higher vocabulary used, specific to that industry
  • Lots of text and graphs
  • Peer-reviewed articles

http://www.epcc.edu/Library/MDP/Pages/ResearchHelp.aspx
http://www.design-newtoncollege.com/year-7/unit-1---magazine-cover
https://www.trentu.ca/library/help/scholarly/journal
Recommended Music Journals & Databases

- Recommendations in Music Technology & Sound Design LibGuide
- Applied Science & Technology Source
- Oxford Music Online
How to Talk to Databases

• Find key words or phrases in your essential question.
  
  • A **key word or phrase** is the word or words that the question is about. They are the important words in the question.
  
  • 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 Talk to Databases

• 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…

Keywords Video
Getting to the Databases
From Home

Electronic Library Resources Login

Enter your student/staff ID number:

Login

**** DO NOT include the @ as part of your ID number ****

If you are unable to log in, please contact the Library during regular Library hours at 661-395-4481, option #2.

Licensing agreements for online databases and ebooks require that we limit access to currently enrolled students, faculty and staff at Bakersfield College.

Use your BC @ number, without the @ symbol.

To the Databases!
How will I remember all this?!

- Use the Library’s “LibGuides” tab to access our LibGuides.
- “Music Technology and Sound Design”
Now it’s your turn to give it a spin...