Information Literacy & Research Course for Faculty
Article Databases
In-Class Exercise

Each group will work to find at least two good articles from any of the article databases on one of the research questions listed below. NOTE: You don’t need to find the whole article, just the reference and an abstract, if possible.

Each group will report on the following:

1. Focus your topic. Then write a research question that reflects your focus.
   EXAMPLE: Are speed bumps effective in preventing traffic accidents?

2. Select an appropriate database(s) to search. Why did you select it?

3. Determine how you’re going to search and try it.
   • what search words did you use?
   • did you do a keyword search or a subject search?
   • did you do a Boolean search?
   • are your articles online? in the Library?
   • did you choose magazines or journals? why?
   • what did you learn about searching on a topic that you didn’t know already? Not about the topic, but about researching the topic.
   • what are you still unclear about? where do you need practice?

4. You’ve just walked in your students’ shoes, so to speak, when you ask them to do library research.
   • Have you learned anything from the experience, in terms of student behavior and learning, which will help you in the future?
   • Would you make any changes to the student research assignments you presently give?
   • Or if you don’t have one, what kind of assignment would you be able to construct based upon today’s experience?
Research Topics

1. identity theft
2. hazing
3. low carbohydrate diets
4. social responsibility of corporations
5. genetically modified foods
6. injection molding