Supplement to Chapter 18

Using Research Resources

Sources in Print

- Books: Card catalog (online or drawer)
- General or specialized references (encyclopedias, etc.): Library reference room
- Government publications
- Periodicals (newspapers, scholarly journals, popular magazines):
  - Periodical indexes: may be printed, online, or on CD-ROM
  - Databases: may contain full text of journal and newspaper articles

Locating printed source materials in both books and periodicals requires determining

- Subject headings: classifications or categories for your general topic
- Keywords: words more specific to your topic, including authors, titles, and proper names

The Library of Congress subject headings system is an important aid for determining subject headings and keywords. This system is used by most libraries and many periodical indexes. These subject headings are found in large, hardbound books owned by most libraries. Your library’s card catalog—online or not—will also have Library of Congress subject headings, along with author and title headings, listed for book entries. If your library has an Internet home page, you may be able to access these sources off campus. Library home pages usually also offer a number of research resources.

Government Publications

- American Statistics Index (ASI)
- Congressional Information Service Index (CIS)
- Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications
- Resources in Education (RIE)

Periodical Indexes

Periodicals are located through indexes that may be online, on CD-ROM, or in print. If your library’s catalog is online, subject-specific indexes may include books as well as periodicals.
Among print indexes, general indexes are the best place to begin for many research topics:

- The Readers’ Guide to Periodical Literature, issued every month and cumulated quarterly as well as annually, is an author-and-subject index to articles of general (rather than scholarly) interest published in more than 100 U.S. magazines. Also available online as Readers’ Guide Abstracts.
- The Magazine Index lists chiefly by subject matter articles from more than 400 magazines.
- The New York Times Index lists selected articles published in the Times from 1851 to 1912, and all articles published in the Times thereafter. Issued twice a month with quarterly cumulations and then bound into annual volumes, this index is a prime source of up-to-date information.
- The Newspaper Index

Specialized indexes include, among many others:

- The Bulletin of the Public Affairs Information Service
- The Environment Index
- The General Science Index
- The Humanities Index
- The Modern Language Association International Bibliography
- The Social Sciences Index

**ONLINE RESOURCES**

**Critically Analyzing Web Sites**

*Look at the Web site’s domain:*

- .com: commercial site. Either an individual or a commercial enterprise has paid to post material.
- .edu: maintained by an educational institution
- .gov: government agencies
- .mil: military groups
- .net: commercial network
- .org: nonprofit organizations, special interests, and political party groups

*Look at the Web site’s sponsor.* Determining the Web site’s domain is a first step. However, you should determine a site’s credibility by finding out and researching what specific organization, institution, or individual is responsible for the site. If you have trouble determining who posted the information, be careful. Virtually anyone can post on the Internet, and much that appears there is unreliable. Apply the same criteria of evaluating sound arguments and evidence there that you do to print sources.

*Determine when the site was updated.* There is a great deal of outdated information on the Internet. A credible Web site will usually indicate when it was updated. Your search engine may also provide you with dates.

**Avoiding Plagiarism from the Internet**

Sources on the Internet must be acknowledged in the same general way as those in books and periodicals. You should identify the source in your text and provide bibliographical

Internet Search Engines

Using search engines requires determining keywords, also called “search terms,” and subject categories, also called simply “categories” or “directories.” Most search engines allow you to combine keyword searches with category searches. Some engines, such as Yahoo, work primarily through category searches.

Every search engine allows you to customize your search. The most common advanced-search option is a Boolean or “word-filter” search that allows you to include and/or exclude certain words associated with your search term.

Keyword Searches. The most popular and powerful keyword search engines are:

- All the Web, www.alltheweb.com
- Google, www.google.com

Other keyword search engines include:
- AltaVista, www.altavista.digital.com
- Hotbot, www.hotbot.com
- InfoSeek, www.infoseek.com
- Lycos, www.lycos.com
- Teoma, www.teoma.com

Category Searches

- DMOZ Open Directory Project, www.dmoz.org
- Librarian’s Index to the Internet, http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/InternetIndex/index.html
- LookSmart, www.looksmart.com
- Yahoo, www.yahoo.com

Alternative-Format Searches

- Ask Jeeves, www.askjeeves.com, a keyword search engine in a question/answer format
- Northern Light, www.nlsearch.com, a keyword search engine that allows results to be saved in folders organized by categories

Selected Online Databases for Books and Articles

- American History & Life
- Biography Index
- Book Review Digest
- Britannica Online
- Congressional Quarterly (CQ) Researcher
- Contemporary Women’s Issues
- Dow Jones News Retrieval
- ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center)
• Expanded Academic Index
• Fact Search
• Humanities Abstracts
• MLA (Modern Language Association) Bibliography
• Newsbank
• ProQuest Research Library
• Readers’ Guide Abstracts
• Social Sciences Abstracts
• Stat-USA
• Wilson Business Abstracts
• World Almanac

Full-Text Databases. Many libraries have indexes that allow you to download a periodical text online. Among the most common full-text databases are:

• EBSCOhost
• JSTOR
• LexisNexis
• ProQuest Research Library

Your library must be subscribed to these databases in order for you to use them.

Online Government Document Sites

• Federal Web Locator, www.infoctr.edu/fw1
• National Archives and Records Administration, www.nara.gov
• Thomas (Library of Congress information service; it includes guides to congressional legislation), http://thomas.loc.gov

Listservs, Bulletin Boards, Newsgroups, and Usenets

Listservs are e-mail lists either for organizations or for people interested in a specific issue or project. They allow a single text to be distributed to all those who have subscribed to the list. Bulletin boards, newsgroups, and Usenets provide e-mail forums on specific issues. A list of all of these can be found at the following Web sites:

• Liszt, www.liszt.com
• Tile.Net, www.tile.net

International Newspapers

• International Herald Tribune, www.iht.com
• (Australia) Sydney Morning Herald, www.smh.com.au
• (Canada) Canada, www.canada.com
• (Colombia) El Colombiano, www.elcolombiano.com
• (France) Le Monde, www.lemonde.fr
• (Germany, in English) Berliner Morgenpost, www.berliner-morgenpost.de/bm/international
• (India) Afternoon Dispatch & Courier, www.afternoondc.com
• (U.K.) The Guardian www.guardian.co.uk
• (U.K.) London Daily Times, timesonline.co.uk

National Newspaper Listings

• Alternative newspapers, www.newslink.org/alter.html
• U.S. major daily metros, www.newslink.org/dayin.html

National Daily Newspapers

• Arizona Republic, www.azcentral.com
• Atlanta Journal-Constitution, www.ajc.com
• Baltimore Sun, www.baltimoresun.com
• Boston Globe, www.boston.com/globe
• Chicago Sun Times, www.suntimes.com
• Chicago Tribune, www.chicagotribune.com
• Christian Science Monitor, www.csmonitor.com
• Cleveland Plain Dealer, www.cleveland.com
• Dallas Morning News, www.dallasnews.com
• Denver Post, www.denverpost.com
• Detroit Free Press, www.freep.com
• Hartford Courant, www.ctnow.com
• Houston Chronicle, www.chron.com
• Indianapolis Star, www.indystar.com
• Kansas City Star, www.kansascity.com
• Los Angeles Times, www.latimes.com
• Louisville Courier, www.courierjournal.com
• Miami Herald, www.herald.com
• Minneapolis Star Tribune, www.startribune.com
• Nashville Tennessean, www.tennessean.com
• New Orleans Times Picayune, www.nola.com
• New York Post, www.nypost.com
• New York Times www.nytimes.com
• Philadelphia Inquirer, www.philly.com
• Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, www.postgazette.com
• Sacramento Bee, www.sacbee.com
• Saint Louis Post-Dispatch, www.stltoday.com
• Saint Petersburg Times, www.sptimes.com
• San Diego News Tribune, www.signonsandiego.com
• San Francisco Chronicle, www.sfgate.com
• San Francisco Examiner, www.examiner.com
• San Jose Mercury News, www. sjmercury. com
• Seattle Times, www.seattletimes.nwsource.com
• Tampa Tribune, www.tampatrib.com
• Toronto Star, www.thestar.com
• USA Today, www.usatoday.com
• Wall Street Journal, www.wsj.com
• Washington Post, www.washingtonpost.com
• Washington Times, www.washtimes.com
Online Versions of Print Journals of Opinion

- American Enterprise, www.americanenterprise.org
- American Prospect, www.prospect.org
- American Spectator, www.spectator.org
- Commentary, www.commentarymagazine.com
- Commonweal, www.commonweal.com
- Conservative Digest, www.conservative-digest.com
- Consumer Reports, www.consumerreports.org
- Dissent, www.dissentmagazine.org
- Extra!, www.fair.org
- Harper's, www.harpers.org
- Human Events, www.humaneventsonline.com
- Insight, insightmag.com
- In These Times, www.inthesetimes.org
- Mother Jones, www.motherjones.com
- Ms., www.msmagazine.com
- The Nation, www.thenation.com
- The New Yorker, www.newyorker.com
- Reason, www.reason.com
- Tikkun, www.tikkun.org
- The Village Voice, www.villagevoice.com

TV, Radio, and Internet News Services

- ABC News, www.abcnnews.com
- Air America Radio, www.airamerica.com
- Al Jazeera, www.english.aljazeera.net
- BBC News (British Broadcasting Corporation), http://news.bbc.co.uk
- CNN, www.cnn.com
- C-Span, www.c-span.org
- Fox News Network, www.fnn.com
- Link TV, www.linktv.org
- MSNBC, www.msnbc.com
- Newsweek, www.newsweek.com
- Pacifica Radio, www.pacifica.org
- PBS, www.pbs.org
- The Politico, www.politico.com
- Salon, www.salon.com
• Slate, www.slate.msn.com
• Time, www.time.com

Politics: Nonpartisan Sources

• All Politics (Time and CNN), http://allpolitics.com
• The Democracy Network (covers local elections), www.democracynet.org
• Fact Check, factcheck.org
• Federal Election Commission Data (campaign contribution information), www.tray.com/fecinfo
• Kennedy School Online Political Information Network, www.harvard.edu/ksgpress/opin/index.html
• Opensecrets.org (campaign contribution information), www.opensecrets.org
• Project Vote Smart, www.vote-smart.org

Party Organizations

• Democratic National Committee, www.democrats.org
• Democratic Socialists of America, www.dsausa.org
• Green Parties of North America, www.greens.org
• International Socialist Organization, www.internationalsocialist.org
• Libertarian Party, www.lp.org/lp.html
• New Party, www.newparty.org
• Reform Party, www.reformparty.org
• Republican National Committee, www.rnc.org

Partisan Foundations and Research Institutes (Think Tanks)

Nearly all such organizations describe themselves as “nonpartisan,” because they would lose tax-exempt status if they were officially affiliated with a political party. In practice, however, most lean strongly toward one party or ideology.

Conservative and Libertarian

• American Enterprise Institute, www.aei.org
• Cato Institute, www.cato.org
• Club for Growth, www.clubforgrowth.org
• Ethics and Public Policy Center, www.eppc.org
• Heritage Foundation, www.heritage.org
• Hoover Institution, www.hoover.org
• Hudson Institute, www.hudson.org
• Intercollegiate Studies Institute, www.isi.org
• Lynde and Bradley Foundation, www.bradleyfnd.com
• Manhattan Institute, www.manhattan-institute.org
• Media Institute, www.mediacenter.org
• Media Research Center, www.mediaresearch.org
• Scaife Foundations, www.scaifefoundations.com

Liberal and Left

• Brookings Institute, www.brookings.org
• Center for American Progress, www.cap.org
• Center for Study of Responsive Law, www.csrl.org
• Economic Policy Institute, www.epi.org
• Demos, www.demos.org
• Institute for Policy Studies, www.ips-dc.org
• New America Foundation, www.newamerica.net
• New World Foundation, www.newwf.org
• Open Society Institute (George Soros), www.soros.org
• Progressive Policy Institute, www.ppionline.org
• Public Interest Research Groups, www.pirg.org

Partisan Web Sites, Journals, Blogs, Listservs

Partisan Web sites, including organizations, journals, blogs (many of which are also available through e-mail listservs or subscriptions) have become increasingly prominent sources of news and commentary in the last few years on both the left and right. Common Dreams (left) and Town Hall (right) are especially useful as daily digests from journals and blogs with links to articles and comprehensive lists of allied journals, also linked. Currently among the most popular sites on the left are Move On, Huffington Post, and Daily Kos; and on the right, Drudge Report, Michelle Malkin, and Right Wing Nuthouse.

Conservative and Libertarian

• Accuracy in Media, www.aim.org
• American Council of Trustees and Alumni, www.goacta.org
• Ann Coulter, www.anncooler.com
• Bill O’Reilly, www.billoreilly.com
• Christian Coalition, www.cc.org
• College Republican National Committee, www.crnc.org
• Conservatism Today, www.conservatismtoday.com
• Conservative Caucus, www.conservativeusa.org
• David Horowitz Freedom Center, www.horowitzfreedomcenter.org
• Drudge Report, www.drudgereport.com
• The Federalist Society, www.fed-soc.org
• Focus on the Family (James Dobson), www.focusonthefamily.com
• Freedom Works, www.freedomworks.org
• Free Republic, www.freerepublic.com
• Frontpagemag (David Horowitz), www.frontpagemag.com
• Glenn Beck, www.glennbeck.com
• Judicial Watch, www.judicialwatch.org
• Leadership Institute, www.lead-inst.org
• Liberty Tree (Libertarian), www.Liberty-Tree.org
• Michael Medved, www.michaelmedved.com
• Michelle Malkin, www.michellemalkin.com
• National Association of Scholars, www.nas.org
• Poor and Stupid (Donald Luskin), www.poorandstupid.com
• The Right Side of the Web, www.webring.com/hub?ring=therightsideoftheweb
• Right Wing News, www.rightwingnews.com
• Right Wing Nuthouse (Rick Moran), www.rightwingnuthouse.com
• Rush Limbaugh, www.rushlimbaugh.com
• Students for Academic Freedom, www.studentsforacademicfreedom.org
- Town Hall: Conservative News and Information, www.townhall.com
- William J. Bennett, www.bennettmornings.com
- Young Americans for Freedom, www.yaf.com
- Young America’s Foundation, www.yaf.org

Liberal and Left

- AFL-CIO, www.aflcio.org
- AlterNet, www.alternet.org
- Bill Moyers Journal, www.pbs.org/moyers/journal
- Campus Progress, www.campusprogress.org
- Center for Campus Organizing, www.cco.org
- Change to Win, www.changetowin.org
- College Democrats of America, www.collegedems.com
- Common Dreams, www.commondreams.org
- Daily Kos, www.dailykos.com
- Democracy for America, http://www.democracyforamerica.com
- Democracy Now! (Amy Goodman), www.democracynow.org
- Economic Democracy, www.economicdemocracy.org
- Educators for Social Responsibility, www.esrnational.org
- Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting, www.fair.org
- Free Speech TV, www.freespeech/fstv
- Globalvision, www.globalvision.org
- Huffington Post, www.huffingtonpost.com
- Jobs With Justice, www.jwj.org
- The Left Business Observer, www.leftbusinessobserver.com
- Media Channel, www.mediachannel.org
- Media Matters for America (David Brock), www.mediamatters.org
- Michael Moore, www.michaelmoore.com
- MoveOn, www.moveon.org
- Multinational Monitor (Russell Mokhiber), www.multinationalmonitor.org
- Portside: The Left Side of the Internet, www.portside.org
- Program on Corporations, Law, and Democracy, www.poclad.org
- Public Citizen, www.publiccitizen.org
- Ralph Nader, www.citizenworks.org
- Rethinking Schools, www.rethinkingschools.org
- Solidarity Info Services, solidarityinfoservices@igc.topica.org
- Teaching Tolerance, www.splcenter.org
- Tom Paine, tompaine.com