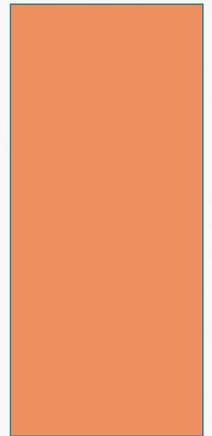


INTERNET & LIBRARY RESEARCH

CHOOSING A RESEARCH TOPIC & COMPILING
RESEARCH ARTICLES FOR YOUR LITERATURE REVIEW



SEARCHING ON THE INTERNET

Evaluating

- Anyone can put anything on the Internet. Therefore, some sites are not reliable or valuable for research papers and projects. For this reason, it is important that you carefully evaluate a Web site. The following are some basic evaluation criteria to consider:
 1. **Authority** – Who is responsible for putting this Website together? Does the author have the training, education, background or experience to write with authority on this topic?
 2. **Source** – Check to see if the sponsor/location of the site is appropriate to the material as shown in the URL. Examples: .edu for education or research materials, .gov for government resources, .com for commercial products or commercially-sponsored sites, and .org for organization. Also ~Name in a URL may mean a personal home page:
 - <http://loraconnor.com/psych280>
 3. **Currency** – When was the Web site last revised and when was it written? Do all the links work and is the site well maintained?
 4. **Coverage/Relevancy** – What is this site all about? Does this site provide the information you are looking for and is there anything missing from this site that another site might cover?
 5. **Accuracy** – How is the information presented on the Web site? Is there evidence and documentation to support the author's claims or arguments?
 6. **Objectivity/Point of View** – Why is this information on the Web? Does the site show bias, sway opinion, or advertise?

SEARCHING THE INTERNET FOR WEB SITES

- Web sites with reliable Internet resources for your research paper or presentation.
- ***Librarians' Index to the Internet*** –
 - <http://lii.org>
 - The *Index* is a searchable, annotated subject directory of Internet resources that have been selected and evaluated by librarians.
- ***Infomine: Scholarly Internet Resource Collections*** –
 - <http://infomineucr.blogspot.com/2008/>
 - Developed by librarians, this is a virtual library of Internet resources for students, faculty, and researchers.

RECOMMENDED PSYCHOLOGY WEB SITES

- **American Psychological Association** –
 - <http://www.apa.org>
 - Home page for the American Psychological Association.
- **AmoebaWeb: Psychology on the Web!** –
 - <http://www.vanguard.edu/faculty/ddegelman/amoebaweb/>
 - Maintained by Douglas Degelman, Ph.D. from Vanguard University, this site provides links to articles and other resources on various branches of psychology.
- **PsychCentral: Learn. Share. Grow.** –
 - <http://psychcentral.com/>
 - A mental health social network created and run by mental health professionals.
- **Psychological Tutorials and Demonstrations** –
 - <http://psych.hanover.edu/KRANTZ/tutor.html>
 - From Hanover College's Psychology Department, the site provides links to many different tutorials on different aspects of psychology.

REFERENCE BOOKS

- Reference books are a good place to start your research. They help you narrow down your topic, find additional search terms, and get a general overview of your topic.
 - *Dictionary of Psychology* – REF BF 31.C65
 - *Popular Psychology: An Encyclopedia* – REF BF 31.C715
 - *Encyclopedia of Psychology* – REF BF 31.E52
 - *Theories of Psychology: A Handbook* – REF BF 81.C43
 - *Biographical Dictionary of Psychology* – REF BF 109.A1
 - *Psychology of Emotions* – REF BF 531 .P78
 - *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Psychology* – REF HM251.B476

SEARCHING THE LIBRARY CATALOG

- Once you have narrowed down your topic, search the library catalog for additional resources on your specific topic.
- Here are some search tips and strategies:
 1. In the Library of Congress Classification System (LCC), Psychology is the **BF section**, but this is a large section, so you will need to narrow your subject.
 2. If you do a **subject search** for **psychology**, try scrolling down the indexed list of subject headings to find more specific headings and click on those titles first.
 3. Other subject headings to search:
 - Social psychology
 - Behaviorism (Psychology)
 - Psychoanalysis
 - Psychotherapy

PRINT PERIODICALS AT OCC LIBRARY

- The following periodicals are found in the Periodicals section of the library and are filed in alphabetical order by title.
 - *American Journal of Psychology*
 - *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*
 - *Journal of Personality*

SEARCHING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES FOR ARTICLES, ESSAYS, AND EBOOKS

- You will find magazine, journal, and newspaper articles; essays; and full-text ebooks on psychology topics in the following electronic resources provided by the OCC Library.
 - **eBooks** – provides electronic full-text copies of published print materials.
 - **Gale Psychology Collection** – provides mostly full-text psychology-related journal, magazine, and newspaper articles.
 - **PsycINFO** – is an abstract and citation (*not full-text*) database of psychological literature from 1887 to the present, the majority of which is from scholarly journals.
 - **Health Reference Center Academic** – provides mostly full-text health, wellness, and medical magazine and scholarly journal articles. You can limit your search to scholarly journals.
 - **Lexis-Nexis Academic** – Magazines, journals, and newspapers from legal, business, medical, and government sources.

LIBRARY RESEARCH --- PSYCHOLOGY

- OCC Library:
<http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/academics/library>
 - To login you must know your Student ID number (exclude the C and add a dash after the first four digits):
 - 1234-5678
 - LastName
- For access to the electronic resources off campus:
 - (1) logon to MyOCC; and
 - (2) click on the link to “Periodicals and Electronic Resources”

RESEARCH PROJECT IDEAS

1. For further research project ideas, read the following articles:
 - <https://www.verywell.com/surprising-psychology-experiments-2795666#step1>
 - <https://www.verywell.com/psychology-fair-project-ideas-2795778>
2. Click the Psych 280 drop down at the top of the class website ,and expand “Research Ideas”

LAB

1. Download and complete the following labs
 - “Library Activity”
 - “Reading a Research Article”
2. Form your research groups of 2 (no more than 3)
3. Begin deciding on your groups research topic for your group research projects.
 - Begin working on the “Research Project Approval Form (One form Required from each Individual for all groups)

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“Before I begin, I’d just like to make it known that I didn’t volunteer to do this presentation.”