Basic Library Instruction

If you're feeling a little rusty on doing library research, check out the HIS100/POS100 tab on the library's Political Science page. This page covers how to search for books, how to search for journal articles, how to find books using the call#, and much more.

1. Go to library.strose.edu
2. Click on Research by Subject
3. Choose Political Science (of course!)
4. Click on the HIS100/POS100

Catalog vs. Individual Databases vs. All Knight Search

The library has thousands of resources that can be accessed in several different ways. This is often more confusing than providing only one access point. The following is a quick explanation of the most common ways you can find resources.

Catalog:
The library's catalog can be searched to find books, ebooks, DVDs, and music scores. If it is a physical book, a call# and location will be displayed. If it is an ebook, click on the title and then click on the link to open the book.

Ebooks will open immediately if you are on campus. If you’re off campus, you will get a login page first.

Individual Databases:
The library subscribes to many databases. They have names like JSTOR and Academic Search Premier. A list of all available databases can be found by clicking on the "Databases A-Z" link off the library’s home page. (Note: Ebsco is not a database. Ebsco owns several databases and their user interfaces look very similar.)

For this assignment, try starting with JSTOR, Academic Search Premier, and America: History & Life (the last one for a more historical perspective).

All Knight Search:
All Knight Search is a tool that searches the library's catalog AND almost all the databases to which we have access. Since it searches everything, you usually get a lot of results - too many results!

If you want to use All Knight Search effectively, try using Advanced Search. There is a link just below the search box on the library's home page. Using Advanced Search, you can combine words and phrases, limit by publication date, etc.
JSTOR

Here are few tips when using JSTOR.

1. Use Advanced Search
2. Limit to Articles
3. Narrow by Discipline (Political Science sounds like a logical one to check!)

All Knight Search

Here are few tips when using All Knight Search.

1. Use Advanced Search
2. Uncheck "Apply related words" and "Also search within the full text of the articles"
3. Limit to Peer Reviewed only, when necessary
4. Limit by Publication Date, when necessary
5. Put phrases in quotes

Google Scholar

Google Scholar (scholar.google.com) can also be good search tool. It also gives you additional information about an article. In particular, Google Scholar tells you how many times an article has been cited in other articles or books. Be warned, the "cited by" data should not be the only indicator you use to judge an article.

Here are few tips when using Google Scholar.

1. Uncheck "include patents"
2. Uncheck "include citations" (this option shows on the results page)

Get Help

Saint Rose Writing Center
- Amazing handouts
- People who want to help

Neil Hellman Library
- Reference Librarians want to help! We're here any time the library is open.
- Phone: 518-454-5181
- Email: refdesk@strose.edu
- Text: 518.336.5277
- In-person
- One-on-one: A librarian working with you (away from the reference desk, no distractions)
Instructions for Census FactFinder

Guided Search:
1. Go to http://factfinder2.census.gov
2. Click on Guided Search
3. Follow the instructions

Industry Data - Advanced Search:
1. Go to http://factfinder2.census.gov
2. Click on Advanced Search
3. Click Show Me All
4. Choose industries from the bullet list
   Enter the NAICs code in the topic or table name
5. Click on Geographies (on the left)
   Choose the appropriate geographic limit
6. Close the selection overlay!
7. Click on a report to view statistics

People Data - Advanced Search:
1. Go to http://factfinder2.census.gov
2. Click on Advanced Search
3. Click Show Me All
4. Click on Geographies tab
   Choose the appropriate geographic limit
5. Close the selection overlay!
6. Click on a report to view statistics
Census Interactive Map


2. Click on any button on the right

3. Click on a colored block to get the data

4. Click on the tabs on the top to view different data

Mapping America Project - New York Times


2. In the search box, enter an address (ex. Albany NY) or a ZIP code

3. To the right of the search box, zoom in as far as you can to more clearly define the neighborhood you are seeking.

4. To navigate, click and drag in whichever direction needed.

NOTE: The default map is Race and Ethnicity. The other topics include Income, Housing and Families, and Education.