Finding Research Worksheet

Start with: Find > Research by Subject > Journalism & Media Studies OR Communication > Articles

Topic:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>and or not</th>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>and or not</th>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>Limits</th>
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</thead>
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1. State your question as a sentence.

2. Identify key concepts that must be present in the information source; use **and**.

3. Consider related terms that might be used for a key concept; use **or**.

4. Use truncation symbol for word variations; use * (asterisk)

5. Use “ “(double quotation) for phrases. Don’t overuse. Consider proximity connector for phrase variation: n# or w#

6. Configure Google Scholar
   - Customize settings
   - Enter search using parentheses for keyword groups; capitalize connectors; use suggested abstracts keywords

**Too few?** Check spelling; remove concepts.

**Too many?** Limit to abstract field; add a concept

Prepared by Carolyn Baber, SDSU Library & Information Access (January 2017).
Quick Start Guide for Using Library Resources

Set up your accounts

- **SDSUid** is used to renew books using the OneSearch My Account feature in the library's catalog; place holds/recalls; borrow books from participating Circuit libraries; access databases remotely; use library computers.
  
  [http://getid.sdsu.edu](http://getid.sdsu.edu)

- Citation management tool - **EndNote** - to organize and group references in any way that works for you; create and format your bibliographies using Cite-While-You-Write; share your research and references with colleagues.

  [http://libguides.sdsu.edu/EndNote](http://libguides.sdsu.edu/EndNote)

- Configure Google Scholar to display materials available from the SDSU Library: [http://scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com)
  
  1. Click **Settings** on the Google Scholar main page.
  2. Click **Library links** and type **SDSU**.
  3. Select **San Diego State University - Find it at SDSU** and **Save**.
  4. Now your Google Scholar search results will show up with a **Find it at SDSU** link if the SDSU library owns the material. Click on this link to get access to the item.

Find Library research materials for your projects: [http://library.sdsu.edu](http://library.sdsu.edu)

The Library has 2.2 million volumes (books and periodicals) and subscribe to over 40,000 online full text journals. We also subscribe to over 150 databases which help you find articles on your topic.

- Use the **Find > Research by Subject** for a comprehensive list of article database: [http://library.sdsu.edu/guides/](http://library.sdsu.edu/guides/)
- Use **Find > Journals & Databases** search forms to (1) determine holdings and formats for journal titles owned by SDSU and (2) to locate articles for which you have a citation: [http://library.sdsu.edu/find/articles-journals](http://library.sdsu.edu/find/articles-journals)
- Use the **OneSearch** to locate books and media use the library catalog: [https://library.sdsu.edu/csuonesearchadv/](https://library.sdsu.edu/csuonesearchadv/)
- Use **CSU+** (via OneSearch) to request books and audiovisual materials from all libraries in the CSU system.

Get help with research

Librarians are your friendly, live connections to the Library & Information Access. They share information about the library, its services and collections, and support your research needs.

- Research assistance is available in-person and on the phone at the Research Desk on the 1st floor of the Library Addition: Phone 619-594-6728; email eref@mail.sdsu.edu; more options [http://library.sdsu.edu/help-services/ask-librarian](http://library.sdsu.edu/help-services/ask-librarian)
- The **Journalism & Media Studies Research Guide** is a great place to begin your academic research projects.

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