Library Resource Guide

Links to Know

Library Homepage: http://library.wustl.edu/
Interlibrary Loan (ILL): https://library.wustl.edu/services/ill/
Ask Us (see FAQs or submit your own!): http://libanswers.wustl.edu/
Research Guide: http://libguides.wustl.edu/w1_focusireland

Search Tools

Academic Search Complete (database)
Find it! (multiple database/subject)

More helpful resources:
• Project Muse
• JSTOR
• Google Scholar
• Web of Knowledge
• International Bibliography of Social Science
• Other options in Database tab

CITE YOUR SOURCES!

These resources can help you create a bibliography and keep your research organized!

Zotero: http://libguides.wustl.edu/zotero
Mendeley: http://libguides.wustl.edu/mendeley

How to Search

Background Resources

Oxford Reference Online – good for topics
Dictionary of Irish Biography – good for people

Background research is useful for understanding your topic and creating a meaningful search!

Bibliography Tips

Find citations using Citation Linker. Filling in the form takes you to our holdings or connects you to Interlibrary Loan. Simply add a resource’s DOI (digital object identifier), but you don’t have the DOI, fill in as much as you can.
Generating Search Terms

1. Dissect your topic into three concepts. Concepts should be distinct and specific, for example:
   Based on the ballad, “Red is the Rose”, I’m interested in what the Irish ballad’s role has been in telling the people’s history of the Great Famine. C1: ballad C2: famine C3: Ireland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concepts:</th>
<th>1.</th>
<th>2.</th>
<th>3.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Synonym 1:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synonym 2:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. Start with keywords, not subject terms. A keyword is a significant word or phrase in the title, subject headings, contents notes, abstract, or text of a record in an online catalog or bibliographic database. Save subject terms for refining. A subject term is any of the topics or themes of a work, stated explicitly in the text or title or implicit in its message. One or more subject headings are assigned to assist users in locating its content by subject. This is controlled language; you probably can’t guess it.

3. Examine your record. Is it scholarly?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarly Article</th>
<th>Popular Article</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholars and experts in the field. Authors always named with institutional affiliations</td>
<td>Staff writers or journalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University presses or professional associations. Articles may be edited through peer-review process by scholars in same field of study</td>
<td>Corporations working for profit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content/Length</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longer with focus on research projects, methodology, and theory. Formal and technical language with discipline-specific terminology.</td>
<td>Shorter with general focus on the topic. Written for news or entertainment value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources Cited</td>
<td>Bibliography or footnotes provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>May include abstract, literature review, methodology, results, conclusion, bibliography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>Academics, scholars, researchers, professionals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Modify and refine. Use subject terms or limiting factors to modify your search.

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Thanks for coming!
Feel free to contact me with any questions!