

**Rhetoric & Composition 103**  
**Spring 2014**  
**Megan Mitchell, Reference Librarian**

### **Library Research Services**

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- **Research Appointments**
  - Meet with a librarian to discuss research strategies and sources for your papers
- **OhioLINK & Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad)**
  - Get books and articles that aren't available at Oberlin
- **RefWorks**
  - Manage your research, integrate references while writing & create bibliographies

### **Make a Research Plan**

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- Get background information & context
- Determine what kind(s) of information is needed
  - books or articles or films, etc.
  - popular or scholarly or technical
  - primary sources or secondary sources
- Consider who is likely to produce the information
  - scholars
  - journalists
  - professionals in a field
  - fans
- Determine which sources will help you find that information
  - library catalogs
  - databases
  - blogs or other open web sites
- Brainstorm terminology
  - be flexible and creative
    - how many ways can you describe what you are looking for?
- Search and then re-search
  - learn how to revise your search from each set of results

**Summon** is a library search engine for all subject areas that quickly pulls together many kinds of material – books, articles, videos, images, government reports, data, etc.

It's a great starting point for any topic and a place to dig up hard to find items.

### **Find Background and Context in Reference Sources**

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The Library has a wide variety of print and online reference sources in nearly every subject area. These articles are often helpful for finding terminology.

- Oxford Reference
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- SAGE Knowledge

### **Find Books (and Other Library Materials) in OBIS and the OhioLINK Library Catalog**

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When looking for materials by topic be aware of the difference between search options:

- **Subject Heading:** searches for official Library of Congress Subject Headings only
- **Keyword:** searches for words or combinations of words anywhere in a record

### **Find Articles Using Databases**

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There is a database for almost every subject area – e.g. education, literature, music, history, religion, biology, etc.

There are databases for finding specific types of articles:

- scholarly journals
- magazines
- newspapers

### **Find Media Using Databases**

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Some databases provide access to videos, images, and sound files, e.g.:

- ARTStor
- American History in Video
- Naxos Music Library