LIBRARY IS A VERB

Dean M. Riley, Professor, MARE, MALS
Goals

- Better research skills get you a better pay check or change a world!
- Library research skills transfer to ANY task!
- Efficiency – why waste time?
- Give you a sense of the significance of “information” from a Christian perspective. It matters…for eternity.

So how do we avoid gallivanting around Information Wonderland? Research skills will transfer because you need information to survive in this world. You need to survive and thrive at work as well as personally at home. At work, the person in the next cubicle will not be getting a raise if he/she only goes to Google and Wikipedia exclusively when they write their reports. If you have solid research skills, you will be better positioned to write better reports, précis, etc. As a student or someone doing personal research related to fun, hobby, etc., you are already busy: class time, general study for other classes, sports and practice, work, and doing other things that are important to you. Why waste your time with inefficient search methods? Why waste time evaluating things that should not have even made it to your list?
Christian Foundation of Information

Why is this critical to research?
Biologist and Information Specialist, Director of Information Technology (retired) at the German Federal Institute of Physics and Technology.

“It should be noted that the activities of all living organisms are controlled by programs comprising information. Because information is required for all life processes (i.e., DNA), it can be stated unequivocally that information is an essential characteristic of all life.”

God created us uniquely. My DNA is designed only for me. I can share my blood but can’t share my DNA. I need it to survive biologically. We also need social information. We have our own social universe in which we operate. We have to know who, what, when, where, why, and how to do things to make a living for ourselves or our families. Even homeless people have a similar structure (where and when to get food, where to “live,” and other daily survival tricks). We need information to survive.
In 2008-09, I saw two studies estimating the amount of information in the world. It included: DOCs and DOCx files, PDFs, web pages, computer programs, spreadsheets, databases, audio files, visual files, audio-visual files, emails, etc. They also factored in that you might forward this to various people. In 2008-09, one study suggested that there was 250 exabytes of information in the world and the other 500 exabytes (or one-half zettabyte). Today’s estimates are now in the zettabyte range. So how easy will it be to find exactly what you really want now ...or in the future? So how big is a zettabyte?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bit</td>
<td>Binary Digit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Bits</td>
<td>1 Byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 Bytes</td>
<td>1 Kilobyte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 Kilobytes</td>
<td>1 Megabyte</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 Megabytes</td>
<td>1 Gigabyte</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 Gigabytes</td>
<td>1 Terabyte</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 Terabytes</td>
<td>1 Petabyte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 Petabytes</td>
<td>1 Exabyte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 Exabytes</td>
<td>1 Zettabyte</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1000 exabytes = 1 million petabytes = 1 billion terabytes = 1 trillion megabytes)

- Current estimate: \(44,000,000,000,000,000,000,000\) bytes, that is!
- 1000 Zettabytes = 1 Yottabyte
- 1000 Yottabytes = 1 Brontobyte
- 1000 Brontobytes = 1 Geopbyte

… and there are a lot more bytes after that…
To print the Internet, how tall would that stack be? Earth to Moon? Earth to Mars? Saturn? Pluto? 13 stacks from the Earth to Pluto! It would deforest the planet 12 times! So how much is there today?

Thirteen stacks from the earth to Pluto stacked end to end would be at or approaching the edge of the solar system and reach of the heliosphere – that is, interstellar space!
Dealing with the mundane…

You are not JUST a student, JUST an athlete, JUST a stay-at-home Mom, JUST a librarian, JUST a teacher, JUST a garbage collector. There is no JUST in God’s kingdom. God is very present in the ordinary, everyday parts of life. The same is true of information. It is not JUST information! It is critical to your everyday functioning and what you need to get through today. Sure, there are trivial elements (who won the game, etc.). God uses EVERYTHING for His kingdom. Nothing is wasted! Remember the five loaves and two fish?

It’s not JUST information! It can’t be JUST information because as believers, you have the God of the Universe residing in you. His creativity, knowledge, and wisdom are endless. Imagine how this world could be different if we prayed about research first and let His spirit guide us! I can’t begin to explain how He can work through people but imagine the changes that could benefit His kingdom through your work when you give it to Him. All I know is that God can infiltrate your mind and give you thoughts and ideas that seem to come from nowhere. It doesn’t matter whether or not your research is spiritually-based or not. If Christ is Lord of all, then “all” means ALL! That includes your research. Your research can literally change yourself, a community, a company, a city, a state, or even a nation. But when you give it to Him, He will use it in His way and on His timetable -- not ours. Unleash His spirit and power on your
research.
Dr. Claude Shannon

- 1916-2001
- *Mathematical Theory of Communication*, 1949
- Father of modern Information Theory
- Information indefinable

If you want someone to blame for the information for our information woes, you can start with this guy.
Shannon’s Theory of Communication

- Technical: Did you hear me?
- Semantic: Did you understand me?
- Behavioral: What are you going to do?

Does this not sound like human communication?

Shannon’s theory was about statistical measurements of data crossing telephone lines. The signals had to be heard, the receivers needed to understand the content, and it needed to complete the commands. Is this communication or research? Could it be that they are the same thing? Also, consider this – how does this relate to your Bible study session, personal quiet and worship time, or a sermon?
Ordered reality (information) vs. chaos (no information)
Information can be designed, yet it is not a “thing”
Humans as information designers
Information on Space-Time continuum

Dr. Dervin is Professor of Communication at Ohio State. She posits that information works on a space-time continuum like *Back to the Future* or *Star Trek*. We have gaps in our information creating chaos. Information restores order to one’s universe.
Your research habits start early. You go to school and learn. You develop your faith. You experience life with friends. But this doesn’t stop. It keeps on going …and going …and going. If I mentioned the word Obergefell, what would think? You may know it another way – the Supreme Court ruling on homosexual marriage. Your feelings about it are pre-determined by your education, faith development (or perhaps lack of it), life experiences, and friendships. Don’t kid yourself if you think this doesn’t apply to your research. What you choose to include in your research is heavily influenced by these factors.
Inform – to give form to, to give shape to something.

Is this not what you do with information? Based on your life background, experiences, education, faith, all of this shapes how you view the information you receive and the information you share (papers, presentations, etc.).

I’m a librarian. I had to see if anyone could define information, even if Shannon believed it could not be done. OED suggests a different perspective of information that follows along what Dervin’s beliefs. That time continuum is in perpetual motion. Everything shapes how you view and use information. That will impact your research!
Comparing Shannon and Gitt

Shannon
- Technical/Semantic/Behavioral

Dr. Werner Gitt – Apobetics
- Information has a purpose. This completes the information transfer. (John 5:24, Acts. 8:26-39)

Dr. Gitt adds a fourth level to Shannon’s theory.
Communication…

- It does not matter how the dots are connected or even their direction.
- Research is all about communication. Sending a message from Point A to Point B. It starts with God, then to you, and finally your audience.

Truth starts with God. Prayer starts with us. We need to join these together to see how God can lead our research.
Literature Reviews
What is a literature review?

What is The Place of Theory in Literature Review?

For Webster and Watson a successful literature review:

creates a firm foundation for advancing knowledge. It facilitates theory development, closes areas where a plethora of research exists, and uncovers areas where research is needed. (Webster and Watson, 2002, emphasis added)

From Systematic Approaches to a Successful Literature Review, 2nd edition
Tricks of the Trade

Have you considered searching professional organizations for access to conference proceedings and reports?

- PURPOSE: Discovery! Many will be behind pay walls. Use Inter-library loans!

DOAJ.org (Directory of Open Access Journals)

This amounts to grey literature and can be harder to find. DOAJ is permitted for inclusion in your literature review. Journals in the DOAJ won’t, however, have the clout that long-published journals will have. This is part of a larger, complicated issue with publishers. The cost of journals is skyrocketing. This is a reactionary movement perhaps in retaliation.
Open Access Journals

Always free!
Check for peer-reviewed status.
Check for quality:
  - Editors
  - Editorial Board
  - Review Process

Be sure to click on journal titles to see more information about open access journals.
Library and Search Preliminaries
We’re mobile!
http://hbu.edu/moodymobile

You can do your research anywhere, anytime, with practically any device! We’re everywhere! Why be sitting and doing nothing constructive. Use today’s smart devices.
You will use this box the most. Make note of the Publication Locator button. You can use this to cross-check for articles found in bibliographies.
First, notice the tabs at the top. This is broken down by subject discipline. Second, notice the Chat button. It typically shows red if we are offline and green if we are online. The Button wording will change accordingly. The chat button is within a large news box. Anything of significant note is placed here such as database maintenance or changes to access. Below the news box are two columns. The left column includes an option to search HBU OneSearch, which is not a database but, instead, is a discovery tool. It searches most of our databases in one shot including: books, E-books, and journal articles (most of our databases). The left column also has a short list of popular databases below the OneSearch box.

The right is an alphabetical listing of ALL of our databases and is much longer but good for you to see.
There are specific databases that you may prefer to use. This can be a better option because your result sets will be smaller than what you would see in OneSearch.
Using Databases from Home

OneSearch lets you see results before getting full-text access. When ready, click – add your Username NOT username@hbu.edu. The same is true for clicking any link on the database page.
Best Choices

HBU OneSearch – single search
JSTOR (archival)
ERIC (EBSCO)
Teacher Reference Center
ProQuest Dissertations
Professional Development Center

As you learn more about your major field of study, you will learn more about specific authors, books, journals, and databases in that field.

Best database choices for general resources. We have many more options on our database page at hbu.libguides.com/databases. These databases will vary by subject.
Subject Guides (a.k.a. LibGuides) are available for a host of classes at hbu.libguides.com. While we do have a LibGuide for the Ed.D program, I would also recommend the Education as well as the Test and Measures LibGuides. We will be adding a tab pertaining to the dissertation and finalization. This will probably happen by the Fall 2018 in totality or piece by piece as we have more details.
WorldCat is a great option. You can use it out in the stacks of any library, anywhere! Be sure to sort your results by zip code. HBU’s zip code is 77074. Sometimes, WorldCat will default to New York, which does not help you very much. This is quite helpful if you are traveling across Texas. If so, be sure to bring your TexShare card with you! You can get those from the library’s Reference Desk and are good for one semester. With this, you can visit and borrow books from every library in the city except Rice. If you want to visit and borrow from them, you MUST speak with the librarian who will email Rice to inform them of your upcoming visit. They are trying to cut down paperwork and chose this course of action instead. TexShare cards are good for ONE semester ONLY.
The Search Process

- Scoping Search – familiarization
  - Identify important databases, keywords, strategy development
- Searching
  - How? Free-text, thesaurus, bibliography
  - What? Databases, grey literature
The Research Process is creation...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESEARCH</th>
<th>CREATING POTTERY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Have you prepared your search terms and evaluated its uniqueness?</td>
<td>- Wedging – knead clay like bread. Checks quality of clay. Prepares the clay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Research usually begins wobbly but becomes more centered (focused).</td>
<td>- Centering – pot must be centered or else becomes wobbly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Centering clay)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Shaping your research is from the inside.</td>
<td>- Shaping clay is mostly done from the inside.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your heart, attitudes, beliefs. (Heart of the Matter)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The research wheel spins and grows with each new search iteration.</td>
<td>- Pulling – growing the pot vertically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Trim excess results and false hits with limiters.</td>
<td>- Trim excess.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Fire: evaluation with your teachers, etc.</td>
<td>- Put in the fire.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

God shapes you and you shape your research.
Your work can re-shape someone else’s thinking now or later.

What we are really talking about here is integrating faith AND research. You can’t compartmentalize your life. God does not work on a schedule or only in certain boxes. He should not be the top thing on your list of important things. He and His Spirit should infiltrate the list. So how does research work? We need a whole new way to perceive information. In reality, the research process is very similar to how a potter works with clay on the wheel. Remember the Oxford English Dictionary’s definition of “inform” – to give form to, to give shape to. While God does with you personally, you do the same with your research and library materials. You form and shape your thoughts based on how God has uniquely created you. Then, you begin to form and shape your project just as the potter shapes the clay. The dissertation is where the fire really heats up your work. Your research may expose you to new ideas, thinking, or data. How do you feel about this new information? Does it change you or effect your topic? Will this cause any soul-searching? Are any emotions stirred up within you? What are the ethical evaluations? How does all of this fit into God’s worldview or does it fit at all? What are the worldview ramifications?
Planning Your Search

**USE A GRID FORMAT FOR PREPARATION**

- List your working thesis statement (in whatever state)
- Carry the terms down into the boxes.
- Ideas for synonyms: Library of Congress Subject Headings, Thesaurus (ERIC, Roget’s, e.g.), Textbooks, Articles, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Synonym1</td>
<td>Synonym2</td>
<td>Synonym3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synonym4</td>
<td>Synonym5</td>
<td>Synonym6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I recommend planning your searches like the right side of the slide in a grid manner as shown. You will need to be a word “detective” and stay on constant alert watching for new terms to include in your search grid.
Research Methods
TRIVIA TIME

How you heard this quote before?
Who Said That First?
Need a hint?
Yes, Lewis Carroll. And you are going to feel like a crazy Mad Hatter, too, trying to gallivant around the Information Wonderland. You will be chasing rabbits if you are not careful to plan your search strategies!
Apollo 15 was one of the most successful J missions of the Apollo program and was the first to use the lunar rover. Before venturing out on their first exploration mission, Commander Scott stood on top of the lunar via the hatch and did a 360-degree survey. That survey helped them plan how and where to do their research. When it comes to research, everyone should discover the best journals, databases, books, and authors of education. The same is true for whatever education sub-specialty that you are studying.
Because they did that 360-degree geological survey, Scott and Irwin found this – the Genesis Rock. It is the oldest rock they found on all the missions.
What kind of sandwich is this? People use different terms of identification in various regions of the country. What do you call the drink that you shallow to wash the sandwich? Write down all the terms you can think of and you will be surprised. In the mid-1990s, the term “light bulb” was not an acceptable word in subject headings by the Library of Congress. The correct term was “incandescent lamp” back then. Now suppose I was doing a history of the light bulb for a class paper. If I used “light bulb” as a subject heading keyword search in those days, I would have had zero results. Thankfully, the Library of Congress loosened their thinking and light bulb is now an acceptable term! The best thing you can do is to find UNIQUE terms with which to search.
Global Keyword Searching

Internet and library databases search and store data from every field today. Search engines (library or Internet) search the full text of articles and books or any specified field (depends on the database). When you type your terms and press Enter, the search engines perform a global keyword search by default unless you start with limits (Advanced Search). Global keyword searching is the primary cause of the high number of results and wasted time plowing through them. Keyword does know that Apollo is a Greek god and apart of Greek mythology or if is part of the space program. Global keyword only matches the letters (literally) that you type in the search box. Search engines only use algorithms to match the letters in your search with records in the database. If you search for D-O-G that is what you will get, articles with words that merely mention the term. To borrow from Aristotle, databases do not understand the concept of “dogness.” It doesn’t understand that a dog is a living creature needing love, attention, care, feeding, grooming, and more. It doesn’t understand the concept of dogness. This is why most people are inefficient with the searching and get a ton of results.
To Google or not to Google...

This is NOT a way to maximize your Google search.
Too much!

225,000,000!

Do you really want to search through 175 million pages? I don’t think so.
Use Unique Terms

Spelling is important as it will impact your search. Not all databases have spellcheck, however. Remember that foreign words need spelled correctly or they won’t be found. Above all, use UNIQUE search terms instead of general terms. Will this be any better? Let’s see...
Wow! I’m no mathematician but this is much less and is a HUGE statistical improvement (more than 10 times)! While no one should review 438,000 results, this is certainly better than 175 million. The statistical difference between the two is beyond astronomical. It is probably more than the size differential between an ant and a human being. Now imagine doing this on library databases where you can limit your terms by SPECIFIC FIELDS!
Use Library Fields

Why waste time doing a global keyword search when you can limit your search options? You do want to be efficient, right? An easy choice to make from the start is to select the subject headings or abstract fields. Your search will only include these fields. Notice the field highlighted in blue. Remember, “Subject Headings” means that the entire article is ABOUT that topic(s). It is a real shame that so many come into the library and do global keyword searching and miss the golden opportunity to get better results but using this simple step. Library records are indexed and read by indexers and abstracters who assign subject headings after having read the article. This is not done by computer algorithms but old fashioned human attention to details.
Global Keyword Is Bad Anytime

I do not recommend doing this kind of search. This is a global keyword search for “education.” This is may be less than Google but it is still far to many to review.
Why waste time doing a global keyword search and get a lot of useless results when you can limit your search options? You do want to be efficient, right? An easy choice to make from the start is to select the subject headings or abstract fields. Your search will only include these fields. Remember, “Subject Headings” means that the entire article is ABOUT that topic(s). So how do these work?
AND, in this case, is not a grammatical conjunction. This is a computer logic command named for English mathematician George Boole. This visually shows the results of your searches when AND is used. Your results are the overlap of the two circles shown in purple. Both terms must be present for inclusion.
Boolean OR

The Boolean OR functions differently. In this case, it does not matter. Results include dog only, cat only, or both terms. This one can be dangerous and explode your results. Use if you are running out of options.
If I wanted to search cowboys in the Dallas area, I might be irritated at the number of results pertaining to the Dallas Cowboys (sorry Cowboy fans). The Boolean NOT excludes things differently than AND. By using NOT, you exclude terms to deliberately weed them out. The white circle above is what is included in your result list.
Maximize Your Searching...

Why is this important? Databases add more publisher content all the time!

While you continue to do your searching, you can continue your searching continuously by setting up alerts. Publishers and databases are constantly adding new resources across the globe at all hours of the day and night. By creating an alert, your search will constantly check new sources as they are added and send you notifications of any changes. NOTE: Newly added articles may not necessarily be hot off the press. Database vendors buy access all the time to journals from different decades, not necessarily the newest ones only.
You will need an EBSCO ID to login. From any EBSCO database, just click the Sign-In option the top and create your own ID and password. We recommend using something familiar.
Look in these places on a citation for additional terms to include in your search. This is handy for mixing and matching search terms when you are trying to find a result set that looks halfway decent.
Review

How do you limit results?
- Use specific synonyms and unique terms
- Include more terms
- Utilize limiting options (options will vary by database)
- Use of Boolean terms

Quick Review moment...
Now that we have discussed the problems of databases and languages, let’s look at some basic searches to see how good they are. The better searches are on the right side because the terms are more specific. The other terms on the left are vague and have multiple meanings. Tip: Natural language searches are still problematic. We have not yet gotten to Web 3.0 (semantic web where search engines actually understand language better).
Prepare Your Searching

Thesis: The United States should stop all activities in the Middle East because it is not a wise investment with our budgetary resources, the persistent threat of Al-Qaeda and ISIS, and that democracy will be tenuous in an Islamic state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Al-Qaeda threat</th>
<th>Democracy in Islam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US budget statistics from 2003-2013</td>
<td>IED placement</td>
<td>Plato’s Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan budget</td>
<td>National security threat to Afghanistan</td>
<td>Developing army and police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebuilding</td>
<td>Expansion into Africa</td>
<td>Spurring economic growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign aid</td>
<td>Hiding in mountains</td>
<td>Developing personal freedoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional attitudes or support</td>
<td>Training camps</td>
<td>Human rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal cooperation</td>
<td>Terrorist cell groups</td>
<td>Women’s rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business ethics</td>
<td>Growing causalities</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This slide demonstrates a more complicated search. This is broken down by the major points you want to support. Beneath is a grid. The grid headers are very vague in terms of intent. The options beneath are more specific. As you do your research, your list will likely grow. Once you have this list, then you mix and match your terms. While going through this process, you will notice that some results will more closely match your expectations. I highly recommend breaking your searches down with grids such as this.
Thesis: Elementary students would get a better start in life if they had better diets, access to technology, and mandatory physical education programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Better Diet</th>
<th>Access to Technology</th>
<th>Physical Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Removal of vending machines</td>
<td>Problem of Haves vs Have-nots</td>
<td>Creating new or expanding current program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision of school cafeteria</td>
<td>Funding School Library and ISD Tech Efforts</td>
<td>Initiate special incentives to encourage greater participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making recommendations for packing personal lunches</td>
<td>Grant-writing</td>
<td>Encourage special programs such as President's Physical Fitness Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing a community garden for local families</td>
<td>Developing a bond proposal for election</td>
<td>Replace recess with mandatory calisthenics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This slide also demonstrates another complicated search. This is broken down by the major points you want to support just like the previous slide.
Great thesis statement but look at the vagueness of the terms. Vagueness kills searches because they add too much extra junk to shift through. Not very efficient. These last three slides show you how I recommend planning your searches in grid format.
# ERIC Thesaurus

## Benefits:
- Well-established controlled vocabulary
  - One word used to describe a specific concept.
  - Only used for descriptors (a.k.a., subject headings)
  - Words applied consistently across the database by indexers.
  - Helps take the guesswork out of finding the right terms for searches.

## Different from Keyword Searching
- Words anywhere in citation or article.
- Uncontrolled language. Much guesswork.

By going to the ERIC database, you can explore the thesaurus to find other useful terms. Be aware that it is currently having technical problems with its search buttons (Spring 2017) but you can click on the terms to see the sub-headings.
Where is the ERIC Thesaurus
This will let you view search terms. Click on any term to see the sub-headings. The “Explode” option and including it into a search is currently having technical difficulties.
ERIC Thesaurus Search – Term Contains
You can think of a thesaurus as a funnel.
God gave you a brain to use while in college. Please use it when strategizing or reviewing your results! This is a process and will take time. The time you spend working this process now will pay huge dividends when out on the daily job.

Now that you have seen these basics principles the harder part is putting them into action. Also, you might notice that they overlap. Further, you may the process is circular. While you are analyzing your results, you are still being a “word detective” and finding new terms in the subject headings. You are still using the subject option from the dropdown menu or perhaps another option. You are limiting your search by date or peer-review.
You will still have to play word detective with your results as you did with your strategy planning. This looks like a perfect result! If you have to use a number for a guide, aim for 500. That is a manageable search. Anything above that could still get unwieldy. You obviously want to look at the subject headings when in doubt. I threw this slide in as a reminder that this is a deceptive search. It looks promising. You might get a few gems out of it but your search is hardly thorough.
Evaluating Resources - Summary

- Consider the source (the writer and the web site)
  - Did you carefully review the “About Us” page?
- Consider the motivation (biases?)
- Consider the quality of the writing
- Consider the documentation
- Consider the currency (not necessarily true in philosophy)
- Can you *corroborate* anything?

These work well for the Internet but can also be helpful dealing with other resources.
Corroboration Pays!

This student caused a major headache and proved what librarians and professors have said for years. Verify your facts and information before using them – ANYWHERE!

Read this story at:
http://www.nbcnews.com/id/30699302/ns/technology_and_science-tech_and_gadgets/t/student-hoaxes-worlds-media-wikipedia/#.VkKAnberRQI
"One could say my life itself has been one long soundtrack. Music was my life, music brought me to life, and music is how I will be remembered long after I leave this life. When I die there will be a final waltz playing in my head that only I can hear." (Fitzgerald's fake Jarre quote)

The Guardian, The Atlantic, among others were caught in Fitzgerald's media experiment. Only The Guardian acknowledged their error and learned from it.
### Other Services

- LibGuides – over 40 subjects, 30 topics, and 20 classes.
- Interlibrary Loan – borrow resources. Shipped to HBU
- TexShare Card – use other library resources.
- OneSearch – search books, E-books, and articles.
- HBU Answers – ask questions/get answers
- LibChat – chat with librarians
- SMS Texting - 518-633-4687
- EasyBib app! Sign up at easybib.com from HBU computers.
- JIT – Just-in-time Service at the Reference Desk
- Detailed one-on-one research help (appointment)

There are many ways to contact the library and beyond...
Here are some handy tips and tricks for using Google and make the Internet work for you. The Site option can also be used like this – site:edu or site:gov to limit results to government or education web sites. The last option File Type may be of significant benefit for your research.
In Google Scholar, go to the settings click Library Links. On campus, you will see a few options already but not all of them. Search Houston Baptist University and click all the boxes, then save your search. You must do this on any computer from which you search. From off-campus, you will see no options.
You will likely need more search power. Click the down arrow on the right side of the search box and you are presented with additional options. The other tips for Google will also work in Google Scholar.
Google Scholar – Citations

- Results are ranked by relevance
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... Bass, BM (1998). Transformational leadership, industry, military, and educational impact. ... Effective leadership of vocational administrators as a function of gender and leadership style. ... Leadership styles of successful male and female college choral directors. ...

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This is a good indicator of usage but there are not true bibliometrics.
Master and Apprentice

- Our lives are shaped in God's image. (Gen 1)
- Our thoughts should be shaped into His image. (II Cor. 10:4-5/ Romans 12:1-2)
- Truth should be conformed to His image and truth.
- Should not our research be also conformed into His image?

Imagine the possibilities if you and God partnered together on your research. Ask Him to guide your steps and lead on you the straight and narrow path, free from clutter and junk, to find the resources you need.
But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Isaiah 64:8
Your Research Matters!

- The Apostle Paul wrote what he thought were regular letters to the churches he helped start. They inspired enough people 300 years later that the letters were canonized into scripture as the church fathers believed them to be the inspired Word of God.

Saint PAUL, from mosaic depicting the apostles, 12th century, in apse (from Art Museum Image Gallery).

You may think your research is nothing special or unique. Everything is important to God, especially when you work under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The thing is that you may never realize it! Your daily thoughts are critical. See Mark 12:30 Deut. 6:4,5 and notice the addition of the term “mind.” In addition see Philippians 4:8, Romans 12:1-2, and II Corinthians 10:4-5. God can use what is in your mind when it is focused on Him! That is why it is so important to keep your project in prayer! Don’t take prayer for research projects for granted! Who knows how God can use it to teach others about Him, display His creative abilities, or serve others now or in the future.
I want to conclude by sharing that information is NOT trivial. It may perhaps be irrelevant to you personally. Dr. Werner Gitt, a Christian biologist tells a wonderful story in his book “In the Beginning was Information.” He says that every piece of information is intentional (from a teleological aspect). He says,

“It does not matter whether the originally intended purpose or a different one has been achieved. It should become clear from the following episode that even the information found on tombstones can have a far-reaching effect. Some years ago, a Ghanaian professor who visited Braunschweig to complete his doctorate in architecture told me about a cemetery near Accra. The crosses planted on the graves of the first Christian missionaries are still there, and it is clear from the inscribed dates that they succumbed from tropical diseases with a few days after their arrival. Superficially, if could be said that the efforts of those people were in vain. God ended their lives before they had a chance to proclaim one sentence of the gospel. And there were no visible results. Bit this Ghanaian friend said that he had been moved by the silent witnessing of those crosses to take a decisive step in faith. It became clear that God must have blessed those men with so much love that they went out without regard to their own safety to tell others of this love. It is clear that God’s way is often different from our expectations. What might appear futile in our time stream, is
fruitful and permanent in God’s kairos (life). The purpose of the missionaries was to win Africans for Christ, and after a long time somebody did fulfill this purpose. Now he witnesses for the gospel to many students in his mother tongue. In their hour of death, those missionaries could not have had an inkling that their purpose would eventually be realized."

I want to encourage you that your work and research matters. It can make a difference to your company or organization, a city, a state, a nation or a world. You may be forward-thinking that it may not be deemed important right now. Don’t quit! Be diligent! Do the work! Persevere!
Contact Us!

- Reference Desk Hours:
  - 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM (M-TH)
  - 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (F)
  - 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM (Sat)
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- reference@hbu.edu
- Reference Desk: 281-649-3180
- SMS: 518-633-4687
- Chat - Chat is Online
- Ask your question on HBU Answers

Please let us know how we can help!
This is a special painting given to me by my brother not long after I started collecting vases. This was painted by an American Indian woman named Grandma Coyote and is called “Broken But Not Thrown Away.” She says this about the painting: “…but when I stumble and fall, and my vessel breaks, He picks up the pieces. He doesn’t throw the clay away.” These are words from a song that inspired this painting. Creator is always there to pick us up when we fall short and He doesn’t throw us away...He just holds us until we heal and are stronger. Also, native potters mix crushed chards from broken clay pots with new clay to strengthen it. Today’s pots have traces of ancient pots from years past.”

We may feel that way about things now. You might think that your research is broken. Well, you may be the one strengthening the research in that area for others to build on. You may feel that about life in general right now. You may be burdened with life: family problems, finance problems, academic problems, or something else. You may feel worthless or think this is a worthless or meaningless research project. You would be wrong. As Grandma Coyote alludes, your research is strengthening the work that is already out there, filling in gaps, or extending the research further. It matters! Information and research matters! Be encouraged! You can get through this! God wastes nothing! Everything and everyone is important to Him. If He can use numbers
on tombstones and dead missionaries to further the kingdom of God (not to mention all the other biblical miracles), He can do anything. Nothing is impossible for Him. Your research may change your or your organization right now or maybe in a few years from now. It may affect a future generation long after you have left this life. Pray about your research. Give it to Him and He will guide the project and process! God can use any of our research projects to change you personally, your organization, a city, a nation, or a world. We may not know the ultimate value of our research until we are face to face with Him. Why waste the opportunity! Make every research project count for Him!