

**Brief Tutorial:**

*Using Wikipedia for Academic Research*

View this short YouTube video for ideas on how you can use Wikipedia to jumpstart your research.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBbKDcu\\_wfg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBbKDcu_wfg)

- a. Search a topic
  - b. View the article outline
  - c. Browse the article for terms or a subtopic of interest to you
  - d. Write down terms/words to describe this subtopic and related concepts
  - e. Look at the references
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**ENCYCLOPEDIAS:**

*Britannica Online   Grolier Online*

Use these online encyclopedias to get a broad understanding of your topic, and to focus the scope of your research, to outline your topic, and to find terminology.

<http://umhelena.edu/library> Resources . . . Articles . . . Encyclopedias

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**BOOKS:**

Consult the library's **online catalog** for books on a specific topic. Electronic books are also listed in this catalog.

<http://umhelena.edu/library> Resources . . . Books . . . Library Catalog

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**JOURNAL INDEXES & DATABASES TO SEARCH:**

*Academic Search Premier   JStor*

*Expanded Academic*

*InfoTrac Custom Newspapers*

*Health Reference Center*

Use these databases to locate articles on your topic in newspapers, magazines, and journals.

**HINT:** be sure to limit your search results to full-text. (*See other side of this sheet for searching tips.*)

<http://umhelena.edu/library> Resources . . . Articles

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**WEBSITES:**

Use these Internet links to identify reputable websites.

*Intute*   <http://www.intute.ac.uk/>

*Librarians' Internet Index*   <http://lii.org>

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**BIBLIOGRAPHIC STYLE** (APA, MLA, etc.):

Use these resources to help you format your paper and cite your sources properly.

Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual*. 5<sup>th</sup> Ed.   REF 808.042   HAC

*UM-Helena Library website*

<http://umhelena.edu> Current Students . . . Library . . . Services for Students . . . Citing Sources

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**BOOK A LIBRARIAN:**

Use this service to work one-on-one with the librarian in researching your topic. Sign up at the Librarian's office for a one hour session.

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# WORKSHEET For Searching Journal Databases

## CONCEPTS & SEARCH TERMS:

Example:

	1 <sup>st</sup> CONCEPT	2 <sup>nd</sup> CONCEPT	3 <sup>rd</sup> CONCEPT
<b>Search term</b>	<i>"capital punishment"</i>	<i>deters</i>	<i>crime</i>
<b>Search term</b>	<i>"death penalty"</i>	<i>deterrent</i>	<i>murder</i>
<b>Search term</b>	<i>execution</i>	<i>reduces OR reduction</i>	<i>homicide</i>

	1 <sup>st</sup> CONCEPT	2 <sup>nd</sup> CONCEPT	3 <sup>rd</sup> CONCEPT
<b>Search term</b>			
<b>Search term</b>			
<b>Search term</b>			

## SEARCH TECHNIQUES:

Use "" to search for phrases

*"capital punishment"*

*"death penalty"*

Use Boolean operators

- **OR** to increase your results      *"capital punishment" OR execution*
- **AND** to decrease your results      *"capital punishment" AND deterrent*

Use ( ) to nest operators

*("capital punishment" OR execution) AND (reduces OR deterrent) AND crime*

Helpful Hints:

- Limit results to **full-text**
- Choose to view academic journal articles or magazine articles.
- Select PDF format over html format when available.
- Use folders to save articles and email the articles and/or the citations to you in MLA/APA/Chicago format.