Navigating the Library

https://hartness.vsc.edu

Prerequisites: Prior to completing this worksheet, you should complete the Library Orientation: http://tutorials.libraries.vsc.edu/orientation

Learning Outcomes: After completing the library orientation and this worksheet, you will:

- learn basic library navigation
- know how to limit to a search to a specific type of sources
- know where to find guides, tutorials, and get help from librarians

Getting started with library research

First, locate and review the Keywords & Search Strategies page under the Guides & Help menu. Then, based on what you have learned, answer these questions.

1. Using the library search box, find an article about standardized testing in high school. List the article title here. What keywords did you use to locate the article?

2. From the library homepage, select the Find Information by Subject tab. If you were taking a CCV Intro to Business class, what subject guides might be useful? Navigate to one and write down the name of a database you might use to find information about a company.

Finding different types of sources

Navigate back to the library homepage to begin this section of questions. You may want to refer to the Guides & Help menu to help answer questions.

3. Select the Find Background Information tab and then choose the Gale Virtual Reference Library database from the list. Next, choose the Environment subject. If you are writing a paper about climate change, which of the listed Reference books might you start with to find background information?

4. On that same Find Background Information tab, which In Context database would give you further information about climate change? What types of resources does this database contain?
5. Using the search box on the library homepage, identify a book about a topic you’re interested in. List it here. How do you limit your search to show you only books? How would you request this item?

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6. What is a peer-reviewed journal? How can you search for an article in a peer-reviewed journal?

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7. Use the Find > Articles menu to navigate to the Newspapers section. Name one local (Vermont) newspaper that the library subscribes to. Name one national newspaper.

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Using a library & finding help resources

8. How can librarians help you with your paper and research projects?

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9. Check your options for connecting with a librarian by clicking on the Help button in the upper right. What’s your preferred way to get in touch with a librarian?

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10. From the library homepage, choose the Guides & Help menu. Which pages would you use to learn about the trustworthiness of a source?

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11. What kind of information or materials can you find in a library that you cannot find online? (hint: find a video tutorial)

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12. Describe one resource (a database, search box, guide or tutorial, etc.) that you plan to use to improve your research skills while at CCV.

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