Peace Studies 1B03E
Library Research

Olga Perkovic
Mills Research Help
2nd floor - ext. 22533
library@mcmaster.ca

IM the library: M - F, 11 - 3
MSN: library@mcmaster.ca
AOL: maclibraries
Yahoo! Messenger: maclibraries

Winter 2007
Session Objectives

1. Scholarly vs. Non-scholarly sources
   • Some characteristics

2. Finding books and other sources
   • MORRIS

3. Finding articles (scholarly journals)
   • Databases for Peace studies, International relations

4. Evaluating Internet sources

Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research
Scholarly sources

• Some characteristics
  • Articles written by scholars/experts in a field of study
  • Audience includes professors, researchers, college and university students
  • Publishers are professional organizations, universities, research institutions, scholarly presses
  • Plain, black and white appearance; few ads
  • Always include footnotes and bibliographies that cite the author’s research

Source: UBC Library
Non-Scholarly sources

- Some characteristics
  - Popular publications e.g. Magazines
  - Contain articles written by journalists (who may lack subject expertise)
  - Audience is the general public; articles more informal in tone and scope
  - Publishers are commercial, for-profit enterprises
  - Glossy, with pictures, photographs
  - Sources are rarely cited

Source: UBC Library

*Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research*
Non-Scholarly sources

- Could also include
  - media/internet sources
  - organizations including NGOs
  - interest groups
  - government publications
Session Objectives

1. Scholarly vs. Non-scholarly sources
   - Some characteristics

2. Finding books and other sources
   - MORRIS

3. Finding articles (scholarly journals)
   - Databases for Peace studies, International relations

4. Evaluating Internet sources

Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research
What is MORRIS anyway?

- MORRIS is McMaster’s library catalogue
- Shows what the 4 libraries own
  - Books
  - Government Publications
  - Journals
  - Magazines
  - Maps, etc.
- MORRIS does not include records for individual chapters in books or individual articles
Searching MORRIS

• You can search many different ways
  • title
  • author
  • subject
  • keywords
  • and more!
Searching MORRIS by Title, Author

- **Title**
  - Best for when title is known
  - No need to use capitals, initial articles
  e.g. *The global Cold War; enter as global cold war*

- **Author**
  - Use when author is known
  - Think about phonebooks (last name, first)!
  e.g. *Michael Hopkins; enter as hopkins michael*
Searching MORRIS by Author

- Remember…an Author can also be a corporate body, government agency or department, organization (including NGO), etc.

  e.g. Author *united nations*

  Author Keyword(s) *canada and foreign affairs*

  Author/Title Keyword(s) *human rights watch and africa*
Searching MORRIS by Subject

• Subject
  • determine the “correct” heading; MORRIS helps by providing “See” references and “Related headings”
  
  e.g. *Ethnic cleansing See: Genocide*

• Great for browsing; related subjects are usually grouped together in MORRIS and on the shelves!

• Click on the Subjects to redirect your search and find related books on a topic
Searching MORRIS by Keyword(s)

- Five Keyword indexes
- Best when only have partial information
- Can limit search to specific parts
  e.g. *Title Keyword(s)*, *Author/Title Keyword(s)*
- Can create combinations of keywords or phrases
- *Keyword(s) Anywhere* – most powerful search with largest number of results (not necessarily all on your topic!)
Searching by topic: Tips & Tricks

• Break your topic into keywords or phrases (main ideas)
  • War against terrorism
• Combine keywords using ‘and’
  • war and terrorism
• Think of synonyms
  • war or conflict
• Add synonyms using ‘or’
• Use brackets around synonyms
  • (war or conflict)
Searching by topic: Tips & Tricks

• Use asterisk symbol * (truncation) to retrieve plurals and alternate endings e.g. terror* retrieves
  • terror
  • terrorism
  • terrorist
  • terrorists
Searching by topic: Tips & Tricks

- Use quotations to search phrases
  - “ethnic cleansing”
  - “human rights”
Searching by topic: Tips & Tricks

• Scholarly books are concerned with academic study, especially research. They are often
  • edited (many articles and authors)
  • published by University presses
  • assigned the subjects *collections* or *collected works*

• Use the words *collections*, *collected works*, *edited* or *editor* in your search

  e.g. Keyword(s) Anywhere *genocide and edited*
What does it all mean?

- MORRIS record includes
  - Author(s) or Editor(s)
  - Title (complete)
  - Publisher
  - Place of publication
  - Year of publication
  - Subjects

The global Cold War: third world interventions and the making of our times / Odd Arne Westad.

by Westad, Odd Arne.

Subjects

- Cold War.
- World politics -- 1989-
- Soviet Union -- Relations -- Developing countries
- Developing countries -- Relations -- Soviet Union
- United States -- Relations -- Developing countries
- Developing countries -- Relations -- United States

Save time!

- Check Current Location
  - which library? which collection?
  - use Book Location Guide to find the right floor
- Check Current Status
  - Check shelf, Checked out, Reserve, Non-Circulating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Call No.</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MILLS LIBRARY</td>
<td>MILLS Bookstacks</td>
<td>D 843 .W446 2005</td>
<td>Check shelf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Session Objectives

1. Scholarly vs. Non-scholarly sources
   - Some characteristics

2. Finding books and other sources
   - MORRIS

3. Finding articles (scholarly journals)
   - Databases for Peace studies, International relations

4. Evaluating Internet sources

Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research
Articles defined

- Articles are published on an ongoing basis, in various sources such as:
  - newspapers (daily)
  - popular magazines (e.g. weekly)
  - journals (e.g. monthly, quarterly)
  - trade publications (e.g. weekly, bi-monthly)
  - online only
Journals defined

• Journals are often “academic” or “scholarly” because the articles within them are:
  – written by and for researchers/academics
  – usually intended for an academic audience
  – long, in-depth
  – not filled with advertisements

• Scholarly journals *always* include references or bibliographies
Peer-reviewed defined

• Many, but not all, scholarly journals are also “peer-reviewed” because the articles within them are evaluated and examined by experts in the same field of study before publication to ensure accuracy/credibility.

It is very reputable to have your article published in a peer-reviewed journal!
How do you find these scholarly sources?

- To find articles within scholarly journals, you should start searching in databases!
- McMaster Library subscribes to 400+ online databases, covering many disciplines
Databases

- Go to the “Databases” tab; select “Databases by Subject”
Databases

• Find Databases by Name (by Title or by Keyword)
  e.g. Type social sciences abstracts
Databases

- Select “Social Sciences Abstracts” from Search Results

Search Results (2)
Title: social sciences abstracts

ASSIA Applied social sciences index and abstracts 1987 to present
An indexing and abstracting tool covering social science and health information; over 312,000 references to articles from 650 journals in 16 different countries, including the UK and US. Coverage includes health, social services, psychology, sociology, economics, politics, race relations and education. ...
[more information]

Social Sciences Abstracts (1) (Scholars Portal)
Social Sciences Abstracts (2) (WilsonWeb) 1983 to present; abstracts from 1994 to present
Searchable abstracts of 750,000+ articles from more than 518 English-language periodicals in both applied and theoretical aspects of the social sciences, with 47,000+ new records added annually. Subjects include anthropology, criminology, economics, law, geography, policy studies, psychology, sociology, social work, and urban studies. ...
[more information]
Databases

- Find Databases by SUBJECT
  - BROAD SUBJECT SOCIAL SCIENCES
  - SUBCATEGORY POLITICAL SCIENCE, SOCIOLOGY
- Select the Databases(s) from the “Results” list

*Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research*
Suggested Databases

- JSTOR (Historical only)
- PAIS International (Scholars Portal)
- Peace Research Abstracts (Scholars Portal)
- Social Sciences Abstracts (Scholars Portal)
- Sociological Abstracts (Scholars Portal)
Scholars Portal

Search Tips: e.g., wildcard*, exact phrase

Now Selected: Social Sciences Abstracts @ Scholars Portal

Change: Subject Area or Specific Databases

Date Range: 2002 to Current

Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research
Searching Tips & Tricks

- Use **and** to combine the main keywords and phrases; use quotes around phrases
  - **security and “post cold war”**
- Use **or** to broaden your search (synonyms)
  - **(war or conflict)**
- Use truncation (***) to retrieve plurals and different endings
  - **war** retrieves **war, wars, warfare**
Advanced Search

Try searching both Quick Search and Advanced Search.

Search Tips: e.g., wildcar*, exact phrase; use Keywords for a single search of Title, Abstract, Descriptors.
The “One Good Article” Strategy

- to focus your search
- find **1 good** journal article
- select the tab for “Peer-Reviewed Journals”
The “One Good Article” Strategy

- use words from **descriptors** (subjects) or authors to get related articles

5. *The governance of European security*
   Webber, M.; Croft, S.; Howorth, J.
   Review of International Studies, vol. 30, no. 1, pp. 3-26, 2004
   This article seeks to develop a concept of "security governance" in the context of post-Cold War Europe. The validity of a governance approach lies in its ability to locate some of the distinctive ways in which European security ...
   View Record | Table of Contents | get it!
Now “get” the Article

• Look for a Full-Text link to “get” the article online

[Full-Text PDF (121 Kb)]

OR

• Look for [get it!] to help you find the article, either online or in print (by searching MORRIS).
Review of International Studies
Vol. 30, Issue: 1, January 2004
pp. 3

Title: The governance of European security
Authors: Webber, Mark; Croft, Stuart; Howorth, Jolyon; Terriff, Terry; Krahmann, Elke
Abstract (English): This article seeks to develop a concept of ‘security governance’ in the context of post-Cold War Europe. The validity of a governance approach lies in its ability to locate some of the distinctive ways in which European security has been coordinated, managed and regulated. Based on an examination of the way...
Session Objectives

1. Scholarly vs. Non-scholarly sources
   - Some characteristics

2. Finding books and other sources
   - MORRIS

3. Finding articles (scholarly journals)
   - Databases for Peace studies, International relations

4. Evaluating Internet sources
Evaluating Internet sources

- Go to the “Web” tab; select “More Web Search Options”
Evaluating Internet sources

- Scroll the “Search the Internet” page
- Go to “Evaluating Internet Resources”
  - e.g. Widener

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluating Internet Resources</th>
<th>Citing Internet Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Evaluating Internet Sources &amp; Sites: a tutorial (Purdue University)</td>
<td>• Citation Style Guides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Evaluating Web Pages (Berkeley)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Web Page Evaluation Checklist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Evaluating Web Pages (Duke)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Evaluating Web Resources (Widener)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research
Evaluating Internet sources

- Widener University
- Evaluate Web Pages

**Evaluate Web Pages**
The following tutorial and exercises will help you to evaluate the quality of information you find on the Web.
Evaluating Internet sources

- Five criteria commonly used to evaluate web sites
  - Accuracy
  - Authority
  - Objectivity
  - Currency
  - Coverage
Evaluating Internet sources

• ACCURACY
  • Are the sources cited/documented?
  • Can you verify the legitimacy of the information and sources?
  • Who is the author? Does he/she have the credentials to publish on the topic?
Evaluating Internet sources

• **AUTHORITY**
  • Who is the author? Are there signs of self-publishing? Blogs? Wikis?
  • Known in the field?
  • Is there an “about” section that provides more info? (institutional affiliation, education, contact info, etc.)?
  • Who links to this site? (Check Google Advanced search to find out)
  • What is the domain?
Evaluating Internet sources

**OBJECTIVITY**

- What is the aim of the author in publishing the site?
- What’s the purpose of the site?
  - To advertise a service or product?
  - Political?
  - Sway opinion?
- Can you trust the author?
Evaluating Internet sources

- CURRENCY
  - What’s the “last updated” date on the site?
  - Are the information and resources current?
  - Are there broken links?
Evaluating Internet sources

• COVERAGE
  • Is the content of the site explored in-depth?
  • Are there links to other sites of interest?
  • Beware personal biases!
Session Recap

1. Scholarly vs. Non-scholarly sources
   • Some characteristics

2. Finding books and other sources
   • MORRIS

3. Finding articles (scholarly journals)
   • Databases for Peace studies, International relations

4. Evaluating Internet sources

Peace Studies 1B03E: Library Research
Questions?

Remember to ask for help at any time in your research!