More Library Resources for Inquiry in the Social Sciences

Nora Gaskin
Reference Librarian

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

New! Live Chat: M - F, 11 - 3
MSN: library@mcmaster.ca
AOL & Yahoo! Messenger: maclibraries

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More Research Resources for Inquiry

- evaluating web resources
- citing web and other sources
- finding government statistical data like CANSIM and Census
- finding other government sources
- using Social Sciences Citation Index
- finding newspaper articles

Questions?
any time during the session!

Inquiry 1SS3: More Research Resources
Library’s Internet Search Page

- go to Library home page
- on the left nav bar, click on Search the Internet
- add to Favourites
Challenge:

Find a website on: whale watching in Lake Michigan

(3 minutes)
Critical Thinking

✓ Accuracy
✓ Authority
✓ Objectivity
✓ Currency
✓ Coverage

✓ see original evaluation checklists at Evaluating Web Resources (Widener)

Inquiry 1SS3: More Research Resources
Critical Thinking

✓ URL
✓ Author; credentials?
✓ Last updated?
Critical Thinking

✓ Links
✓ Sources documented?
✓ Listed in subject directory?
✓ Why is it on the Web?
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Citing Web Documents
Minimum Requirements

- document title or description
- date
  - date of publication or last update
  - date of retrieval
- address (URL)
- where possible:
  - author, and author’s institutional affiliation
Example of a Web Citation

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Links to Government Sources on the Web

- start at the Library home page:
  - [http://library.mcmaster.ca](http://library.mcmaster.ca)
  - click on
    - the picture of Mills Library
    - Maps, Data & Government Publications
    - Government Publications
    - Government Publications on the Web
Links to Government Statistical Sources

- start at the Library home page:
  - [http://library.mcmaster.ca](http://library.mcmaster.ca)
  - click on
    - the picture of Mills Library
    - Maps, Data & Government Publications
    - Government Publications
    - Statistical Sources
there are lots of other great sources on
this page, too!

Statistical Sources

Canada

- Statistics Canada's website
  this site provides economic, social and census data (free and for fee) plus daily analysis of statistical releases

- ESTAT
  an interactive teaching and learning tool from Statistics Canada, offering reliable and timely statistics

- CANSIM
  Time series statistics ranging from social to economic aspects of Canadian life

- Index of downloadable Statistics Canada publications
  full text access to approximately 300 Statistics Canada publications listed by subject and Statistics Canada catalogue number

- Free Statistics Canada Internet Publications
  full text access to over 300 publications listed by subject, catalogue number, or title

- Historical Statistics of Canada
  statistical tables on the social, economic and institutional conditions of Canada from 1867 to the mid 1970s

- Education in Canada
  annual review of statistics on Canadian education from 1996 to 2000

- 2001 Census
Quick Route for Accessing E-STAT

- start at the Library home page:
  - [http://library.mcmaster.ca](http://library.mcmaster.ca)
  - click on *e-Resources*
  - type *estat* in the search box
E-STAT

- click English
- click Accept and enter
- click Data tab
- browse by topic, or search CANSIM or Census
E-STAT: Browsing by Topic

example:

- Arts, culture and recreation
- Recreation
- #2: Television viewing time, by viewer demographic characteristics
- click for detailed description of each table
E-STAT: Searching by Keywords

- Search CANSIM
- text search
- 1 all of these words
- 2 active tables
- 3 table titles only
- 4 television
- Health behaviour in school-aged children 2002

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E-STAT Output: one possibility

- for Geography click Select all
- for Sex select males
- for Age group select 13 years
- for Activity select watching television
- for Period of the week select weekdays
- for Student response click Select all
- click Retrieve as a Table
- select HTML Table, time as columns
- click Go

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Inquiry 1SS3: More Research Resources
Guide to Using SSCI

Handout: How to do a cited reference search in Social Sciences Citation Index

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Inquiry 1SS3: More Research Resources
LexisNexis

- go to e-Resources & type: lexisnexis in the search window
- for Canadian news sources:
  - Guided News Search
  - World News
  - North/South America
Questions?
...and don’t forget –

Need Help? Just Ask!

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905 525-9140 ext. 22533
library@mcmaster.ca

IM the library (M-F, 11 am - 3 pm)
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AOL & Yahoo! Messenger: maclibraries

Good Luck with your Assignments!

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