

Lake-Sumter Community College Library
Research Starting Points

The Library Catalog lists print books, e-books, periodicals, and other materials at each campus library.

This sections provides handouts and tutorials to further explain each topic.

How To...

- Find Books
- Find Articles
- Avoid Plagiarism
- Cite Sources
- Annotate a Bibliography
- Format Your Paper
- Find a Topic
- Use Databases
- Access Wireless Network

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 Most frequently used general databases

E-Book Collections
 Electronic Books on a wide range of subjects

Journal Finder
 Find periodicals by title

Research Guides
 How to do library research

Subject and Course Guides
 Guides for specific courses and assignments

Ask us if you can't find something you need! Staff phone numbers and email addresses are here.

Suggested Databases	
To login to databases, your username is your X-ID and your PIN number is the last 4 digits of your social security number.	
General:	Academic Search Complete (EBSCOhost) General OneFile (Gale) JSTOR
Argument:	Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center (Gale) SIRS Researcher (SIRS) CQ Researcher (CQ) Points of View (EBSCOhost)
Business:	Business Source Complete(EBSCOhost) General BusinessFile ASAP (Gale) Hoover's Online
Criminal Justice:	Criminal Justice Periodicals Index (ProQuest)
E-Books:	Oxford English Dictionary and Reference Online Virtual Reference Library (Gale) Encyclopædia Britannica Online
Education:	Education Full Text (Wilson Web) Education Research Complete (EBSCOhost) InfoTrac Professional Collection (Gale)
Health:	Health & Wellness Resource Center (Gale) Health Source – Consumer Edition (EBSCOhost)
Literature:	Literature Resource Center (Gale) Literary Reference Center (EBSCOhost)
Newspapers:	Historical Newspapers 1851 to present (ProQuest) America's Newspapers (NewsBank)
Psychology:	PsycArticles (EBSCOhost)
Science & Technology:	Science Resource Center (Gale) Computer Database (Gale) Wilson Science Complete (Wilson Web)

For more information go to <http://www.lsc.edu/library>

Evaluating Sources

You must think critically about all of the resources you are using, especially websites. When using websites try to use **.edu, .org, and .gov** sites if possible. **However, always use the checklist below to evaluate all of the sources you are using in your paper.**

Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Who is the author? ✓ Are the author's qualifications provided? ✓ Is the source sponsored by an organization? If so, is the purpose and scope of the organization given? ✓ Does the author or sponsoring organization have the credentials or expertise to present information on the topic? ✓ Have others, either in print media or electronic sources, cited the author? ✓ For websites, is there an "about this site" link or information provided about the purpose of the site? ✓ Does the author comply with current copyright guidelines? ✓ Is contact information provided? For websites, are phone numbers, surface mail, and/or e-mail addresses provided?
Bias & Objectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Does the information seem to be credible and reliable? ✓ Does it appear that the author or sponsoring organization has a biased point of view? If so, is the bias clearly stated? ✓ Are fallacious, misleading or deceptive arguments used? ✓ Are stereotypes or ethnocentric arguments used? ✓ Is the source a satire, parody or spoof? ✓ Are there advertisements in the source? Is the source an advertisement disguised as information? ✓ Is there a list of additional sources presenting other viewpoints?
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Is the content accurate, authentic, not forged or altered? ✓ Is the writing clear and precise? ✓ Who is the intended audience and is the content suitable for that group? ✓ Are there citations for sources, indicating where the information was gathered? ✓ Does the information agree with other sources? ✓ Does it include lists of additional sources about the topic? ✓ For websites, are there many obvious typographical or grammatical errors?
Consensus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ How does the source or website compare with other print or electronic sources on the same topic? ✓ Does the information presented agree or disagree with an accepted point of view?
Currency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ How current is the information? ✓ Is the purpose of the source to provide current information or primarily for historical purposes? ✓ Is the information too old or too new for your research needs? ✓ For websites, when was the site created or last revised? ✓ For websites, are there links that have moved or are not connecting?
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Is the source organized so that information is easy to find? ✓ For websites, is it searchable? ✓ For websites, is it still under construction?