ENGL 102: Composition II

Make a Concept Map
What topics interest YOU to enjoy research?
What kind of information do you need? Statistics? Medical opinions? Research studies? Laws or other legal documents?

If your first idea seems too broad, think about limiting:
- Geography: Country, State, Reservation, etc.
- Population Demographics: Age, Gender, Race, etc.
- Circumstance

Visit the Molstead Library website www.nic.edu/library

Find Articles > Databases by Title/Subject/Type

Consult Points of View Reference Center or CQ Researcher database
Best Used For: Background, Concept Mapping, Collecting Keywords; Narrowing Your Topic

Search Library Databases for Peer-Reviewed/Scholarly Sources
Best Used For: Original Research Articles; Highest Quality Topic Analysis, Detailed Information

Choose Molstead Library subject databases that are relevant to your research topic.
Overwhelmed? A good multi-disciplinary database is EBSCOhost Academic Search Complete.

Database Research Like a Pro!
When you use databases, combine research keywords as search equations to be most efficient and effective. Search equations always run from left to right.
- Use AND to search keywords with independent meanings.
- Use OR to search keywords with similar meanings.
- Use NOT to eliminate undesired keywords from coming up in your results.
- Use “quotation marks” to search for phrases.
- Use (parentheses) to combine keyword combinations with other keywords.

Search equations for your research:
Conduct a Primo Search on Your Topic  [www.nic.edu/library](http://www.nic.edu/library)

Best Used For: Books (Broad or Detailed) and Videos

After you have collected keywords, use them to retrieve books that help support your topic. Sort results by item type, date, or collection. Consider submitting an InterLibrary Loan for items not owned by Molstead Library.

Call numbers or relevant articles for your research:

---

Think Critically When Using Free Internet Sources

Best Used For: Government Statistics; Current Laws/Legislation; Current News Events, Local/Regional Topics

- If the source doesn’t have an *authoritative* author for your context, don’t use the information!
- If a source refers to information from *another* article or interview, try to find the original source!

Google search terms / Quality results:

---

Meet with a Librarian  (208-769-3265)

During library hours, visit or call the Molstead Library Information Desk. Drop-ins are welcome!

- **Monday-Thursday** 7:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- **Friday** 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Closed Saturday**
- **Sunday** 1 p.m. – 8 p.m.

If you prefer to schedule a face-to-face or virtual appointment, email [librarian@nic.edu](mailto:librarian@nic.edu)