SOCI 602/702

Seminar in Professional Sociology – Library Resources
Finding Articles

- **Multi-disciplinary**
  - Summon
  - Academic Search Complete
  - Google Scholar

- **Subject-Specific**
  - SocINDEX
  - Family and Society Studies Worldwide
  - Family Studies Abstracts

- **Other**
  - Websites
  - Government of Canada / Statistics Canada
Four Rules for Effective Searching

RULE #1: **AND**

- Use 'AND' to connect terms and concepts together

  **Strength:**
  - Widely used in most search tools.

  **Weakness:**
  - Not all search tools automatically insert AND. Most library catalogues and many research databases require you to add AND

  parents and children and divorce
RULE #2: **Phrase Searching**

- Use double quotations " " around words to group them together

**Strength:**
- Good for searching unique groupings of words or common words excluded from a search, like 'and', 'of', 'the'. Phrase searching is also found in the Advanced Search of most search tools.

**Weakness:**
- Not all search tools accept phrase searching. Limited usefulness in tools that do not search the full-text of books, articles, documents.

“Children of divorced parents”
Four Rules for Effective Searching

RULE #3: Limits

- Use for more focused searching. Restrict your search by date, author, scholarly articles, and more.
- Strength:
  - Good for reducing large searches to more focused results.
- Weakness:
  - Can be too narrow and exclude other relevant results.
Four Rules for Effective Searching

RULE #4: **Truncation**

- Use primarily for capturing alternate endings of search terms. Is often represented by a symbol. For example, technolog* will find technology, technologies, technological, etc.

  **Strength:**
  - Good for finding plurals and words with variant endings. For example, Canad* finds Canada, Canadian, Canadians, etc.

  **Weakness:**
  - Not all search tools use the same symbols! ("*" is the most common).

    Divorce* and child* and parent*
Identifying Scholarly Articles

- **Purpose / Content**
  - Disseminate new findings and theories.
  - Contains thorough descriptions of original work (experiment, fieldwork, survey, textual analysis).

- **Audience**
  - One academic field.
  - Language includes technical terms and assumes substantial knowledge of field.
Identifying Scholarly Articles

**Authors / Editors**
- Scholars write articles based on their own research. Scholars are usually PhDs-faculty, government scientists, museum curators, etc.
- Editors are fellow scholars who peer-review or referee to ensure research was done correctly and that result is new and significant.
- Authors and editors work for intangible goals such as scientific progress, intellectual curiosity, and prestige.

**Accountability**
- Controlled by peer-review process.
- Research process (experiment design and method, footnotes to published sources used) described thoroughly so other researchers can replicate process to make sure it was done logically.
Identifying Scholarly Articles

- **Appearance**
  - Covers often plain, vary little issue to issue.
  - Illustrations limited to those strictly necessary to explain article.
  - Includes few ads.
  - Articles almost always include abstract and footnotes/bibliography.
  - Format of articles standard within a field: typically hypothesis, description of previous research, methodology, results, conclusions.

- **Publisher**
  - Scholarly society, university, or specialist commercial firm.

- **Access**
  - Generally sent to subscribing university libraries, labs or offices.
  - Most indexed only in index devoted to that field: e.g. SocINDEX
Open Access

- Open Access Author Fund - The fund is open to graduate students, faculty, staff, adjunct faculty, and postdoctoral researchers at the University of Calgary.

- The fund will pay Article Processing Charges (APCs) for articles that have been accepted for publication in fully OA journals that are listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals.
Institutional Repository

- PRISM is a digital archive of the university's intellectual output. Established and maintained by Libraries and Cultural Resources to manage, preserve and make available the academic works of faculty, students and research groups. The collection includes faculty publications, masters and doctoral theses, and research output from across Southern Alberta. PRISM is updated regularly, with new works added daily.

http://prism.ucalgary.ca
Spatial, Data, and Numeric Services (SANDS)

- Open Monday to Friday 11:00-3:00
- Help find GIS/Statistical Data
- Computers equipped with ArcGIS, Nvivo 10, SAS 9.3, and SPSS 24
- Staff who can advise/teach students
- libdata@ucalgary.ca for appointments
- 3rd floor of the TFDL (left of elevators)
APA Resources

- APA Formatting and Style Guide
  - The Owl at Purdue
  - [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)

- Documenting Resources: The APA Format
Contact Information

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Office Hours
  By appointment

Sociology Research Guide
  http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/sociology