Library Resources and Research Techniques for English 202G

Learning Outcomes: By the end of your library class you will be able to locate public policies and research material (including pro-con positions) on those policies.

Databases: Provide access to published material in magazines, journals, newspapers, and other sources. The UMW Library subscribes to these databases and they are part of the “Deep Web,” as opposed to the “Surface Web” or “Free Web.”

Resources Offering Pro and Con Views

- Click on “Guides” in the blue tab on the Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu, or click on “Research Guides” in the “Get Help” section.
  - Click on “English” (http://libguides.umw.edu/engl)
    - Click on “Policy Issues” in the “Navigating the Internet” section

Among the titles listed on the subject guide, see:

*Issues and Controversies* (1995 to date)
- Since 1995, *Issues and Controversies* has covered the most “prominent and hotly debated issues of the day,” offering in-depth analyses, pro-con articles, and bibliographies. The Library subscribes to this resource, so off-campus users must log in before accessing it.

*Public Policy Issues and Groups* (http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/govt/pubpol.php)
- Maintained by the Vanderbilt University Library

*Procon.org* (http://www.procon.org/)
- A non-profit organization offering nonpartisan, pro-con research articles on more than fifty controversial issues.

Finding Books and Articles

*Quest*
- A new search tool that allows users to find print and online resources at UMW Libraries through a single interface.
- Click on “Quest” from Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu.
- A search in Quest will locate:
  - Books, e-books, journals, magazines, and newspapers, and DVDs
  - Articles from journals, magazines, newspapers, and much more
Finding Articles

- Links to databases and other resources that provide abstracts of articles (summaries) and full-text articles are available in the “Locating Articles” section of the UMW Libraries English subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/engl). For example, see:

  Academic Search Complete (coverage varies; as far back as the 1880s to date)
  - Includes thousands of full-text academic journals and periodicals in a wide variety of disciplines.
  - Important: Can click on “Choose Databases” to add additional databases, such as Humanities Full Text, Humanities International Complete, Humanities and Social Sciences Index Retrospective, 1907-1984; MasterFILE Premier, and OmniFile Full Text Mega.
  - Can also choose all the databases that are provided.

Books Series Offering Pro and Con Views

  - Each volume in this series presents various opinions on a single issue.

  - The purpose of this series is to “introduce the reader to all sides of contemporary controversies in an objective and comprehensive way.”

  - Each volume in this series “examines an important social issue in a variety of ways, from personal accounts and case studies to pertinent factual and statistical articles to commentaries and overviews.”

  - Each one-volume work in this series provides a detailed overview of a current and controversial issue in the news

Finding Newspaper Articles

- See the UMW Libraries’ guide to finding newspaper articles (http://libguides.umw.edu/newspapers).
- ProQuest Historical Newspapers and Nexis Uni are also in the “Locating Articles” section of the Library Communication subject guide.
  - To find editorials in Nexis Uni,
    - Click on “Advanced Search” and select “News” after clicking on “Select a specific content type.”
    - Add “editorial” to your search terms.
    - Click on “Add” after filling out each drop-down window. Click “Search when finished.

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