



TRI·COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dr. Carl D. Dockery Library

How to find information for your research paper!

Working on a research paper –
Follow the tips below!



In this handout: how to.....

- **Identify your topic**
- **Background information**
- **Off campus access**
- **Online database articles**
- **More online electronic databases**
- **Books, print and electronic**
- **The Internet**
- **Evaluate what you find!**
- **Cite your sources**

- **First, the Library website!**

On the Tri-County Community College Library website at <http://www.tricountycc.edu/library.php> you will find quick links to online databases, the library catalog and other electronic information

- **Identify and develop your topic**

Identify titles, authors and keywords to use in your search.
Check your spelling!!!! And know your topic.....

- **Find Background information; get to know your topic**

Use an encyclopedia, dictionary or an online database for an overview and general information on your topic.

Get a great start with:

- **Encyclopedia Britannica**: Online Encyclopedia with thousands of articles, images, and more on all imaginable topics.
- For **off campus** access use **Encyclopedia Britannica Login** (password is your library card number)
- **CQ Researcher**: Online database with great overviews on current and controversial topics.

- **Off Campus: Password**

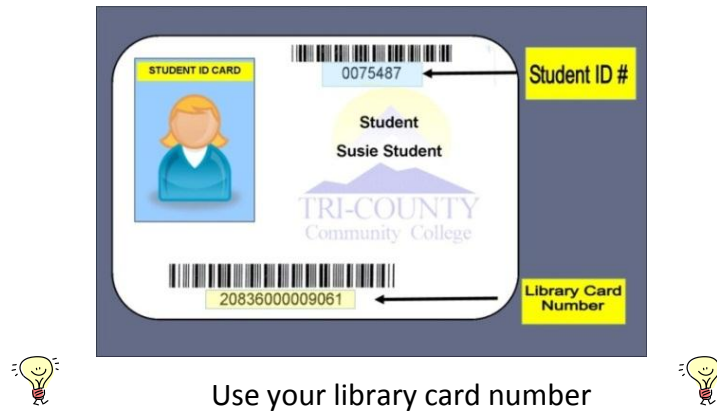
When Off Campus, working at home or elsewhere,and you want to use our online databases

- You need a **password** (changes each semester) to access the electronic information in the library databases.
- contact the library staff if you don't have one:
 - 828-835-4314
 - e-mail: **library@tricountycc.edu**
 - Instant Message: **tccclibrary@hotmail.com**

OR

- **Off Campus: Library Card Number**

You can also use your library card number to access our databases off campus.



- **Online electronic articles from Newspapers, Magazines and Journals**

Search for periodical articles on your topic using the online electronic databases in [NCLIVE](#), such as:

- **Academic Search Premier database**
Magazines and journals on many subjects
- **Master File Premier database**
General magazines, journals and newspapers covering many subjects.
- **Wall Street Journal**
Full text articles from the Wall Street Journal (1981-current)

- **More Online Electronic Databases**

Many more [electronic databases](#) are available for Tri-County students, on all different kind of topics such as:

- **Literary Reference Center**
Articles and criticisms, including peer-reviewed, bios and interviews, novels, short stories, poems, and literary magazines
- **Bloom's Literary Reference Online**
Information on authors, literary topics, themes, and genres featuring the writings of renowned academic Harold Bloom
- **CQ Researcher**

Overviews and in-depth information on current and controversial topics, political and social issues, such as health, education, the environment, technology, and the U.S. economy.

- **Opposing Viewpoints**

Full-text covering today's hottest social issues, from Terrorism to Endangered Species, Stem Cell Research to Gun Control, provides Pro-Con arguments

- **Health Source, Nursing Edition**

Magazines, journals, and essays on medical sciences, food sciences and nutrition, childcare, general health, adult health, pediatric health, senior health, women's health and sports medicine

- **Complete list of the library databases**

- **Find Printed books, Electronic or E-books, DVD's and other media**

Today the library not only offers a great collection of good old printed books, but also a collection of E-books, electronic digital versions of books, which you can read on your computer anywhere you have access to the internet

- **Printed books in the Catalog:** search the TCCC Library online catalog to find print books, DVD's and more.
- **Graham Campus Students,** print books and media can be delivered to the Graham County Campus using **Place Hold** in the catalog
- **NetLibrary E-books:** in **NCLIVE** use the **NetLibrary** database to locate E-books on your topic.

- **Find free information on the Internet**

- Use search engines such as **Google** to locate information on the web.
- How to **Power-Search** Google!
- **How to Evaluate Websites:** 'the good the bad and the ugly', by the librarians of Lesley University. What to look for in Websites? Avoid the pitfalls of the World Wide Web!

- **Evaluate what you find!**

Critically examine the books, articles and internet sites you found on your topic. If you have too many or too few sources, narrow or broaden your topics

- **Cite what you find using a standard citation format**

Citing or documenting the sources used in your research is important.

- 'How to' citation help pages:
 - [MLA style citations](#)
 - [APA style citations](#)
- Online assistance formatting your citations (check with your instructor):
 - [Bibme](#)
 - [Citation Machine](#)

- **Ask your instructor**

If you are not sure you're doing it right: ask your instructor!!

Need More Help?

[Ask a librarian for assistance Online!](#)

Or

In Person