

RESEARCH STRATEGIES-OUTLINE

I. Define a Topic in Public Administration

1. Search for Ideas
2. Narrow or Broaden Your Topic as Needed
3. State Your Topic as a Question
4. Identify the Type of Information Needed

II. Gather Background Information

1. Encyclopedias
2. Dictionaries
3. Almanacs and Yearbooks
4. Handbooks and Bibliographies
5. Dissertations, Theses and Senior Projects
6. Current Research

III. Search Databases for Journal Articles, Technical Reports, Conference Proceedings and Standards

1. What are Databases?
 - a. Structure
 - b. Type
 1. Bibliographic
 2. Full-Text
 3. Numeric
 4. Image
 5. Audio
 - c. Coverage
 1. Subject Area
 2. Type of Publication
 - d. Attributes
2. Searching Databases
 - a. Search Strategies
 - b. Use of TSU Database Subscriptions in Public Administration
 - [ABI/Inform](#)
 - [Columbia International](#)
 - [Congressional Universe](#)
 - [Country Analysis](#)
 - [Dissertation Abstracts](#)
 - [EBSCOhost](#) - Academic Search Premier
 - [Emerald](#)
 - [ERIC](#)
 - [Ethnic NewsWatch](#)
 - [FACTS](#)

[GenderWatch](#)
[InfoPlease](#)
[INFOTRAC](#)
[JSTOR](#)
[Keesing's Online](#)
[Lexis-Nexis](#)
[MIT Press](#)
NewsBank
[Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center](#)
[Project MUSE](#)
ScienceDirect
[SpringerLINK](#)
[Statistical Abstract of the United States](#)
[Westlaw Campus](#)
[Wiley InterScience](#)
[WilsonWeb](#) - Social Sciences

3. Locating Print and Electronic Journal Articles

IV. Search TSU Online Catalog for Books and Other Resources

1. How to use TSU Online catalog?
 - a. Keyword Search
 - b. Subject search
 - c. Author Search
 - d. Title Search
 - e. Search Commands
 1. Boolean operators
 2. Search Qualifiers
 3. Tips
2. Location of Materials
3. Library of Congress Classification System
4. What is a Call Number ?
5. How to Read Call Numbers?
6. Electronic Books

V. Explore Internet Resources

1. Structures and Attributes of the Internet
2. Search Tools for the Internet
 - a. Google
 - b. AllThe.com
 - c. Yahoo
 - d. AltaVista
 - e. Ask Jeeves
 - f. HotBot
 - g. Dogpile
 - h. Search Engine Tips
3. Types of Web Sites

4. Categories of Information on the Internet
 - a. Free Web Sites with Valuable Information
 1. Current Company Information
 2. Current Events or Topics
 3. State and federal Government Information
 4. Information About and From Associations
 5. WWW Resources at TSU
 1. Virtual reference
 2. Tennessee Resources
 3. Government Resources
 6. Web Sites in Public Administration

VI. Evaluate Research Materials

1. Criteria to Evaluate Research Materials in Public Administration
2. Criteria to Evaluate the Web Resources

VII. Write the Research Paper

1. Organization of Information
2. Citing Sources and Ethical Issues
3. Guidebooks on Research

VIII. Cite Your Sources

1. Style Manuals