SOCB44 Research Skills Workshop

January 11, 2018
Kathryn Barrett, Liaison Librarian
Workshop Goals

● Differentiate between popular and scholarly sources
● Identify keywords and build a search strategy
● Access scholarly journal articles using library databases
# Types of Research Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POPULAR/NON-ACADEMIC</th>
<th>SCHOLARLY/ACADEMIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>News articles</td>
<td>Academic books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine articles</td>
<td>Journal articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Websites</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How can you differentiate between popular and scholarly sources?

- Author
- Audience
- Purpose
- Publisher
- Format/style
- References
Peer Review

- Process in which scholars critically appraise each other’s work
- Determines whether scholarly journal article should be published in a peer-reviewed journal
Research Topic

What housing challenges do low-income families face in Canada?
Main Concepts

What **housing** challenges do **low-income** families face in **Canada**?
Identifying Keywords

- Course content or course readings
- Background research
- Synonyms
- Subject headings
- Auto suggest
- Relevant articles
## Generating Keywords

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing</th>
<th>Low Income</th>
<th>Canada</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House(s)</td>
<td>Low-income</td>
<td>Canadian(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home(s)</td>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence(s)</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling(s)</td>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Settlement(s)</td>
<td>Economic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>Socioeconomic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitation</td>
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**Search tips:**

Wildcard (*) → Canad* = Canada, Canadian, Canadians
Use quotation marks for an exact match. They preserve word order. E.g. “low income”.
Combining Keywords: AND

- Use AND to combine your concepts
- Results must contain both keywords
- Focuses your search
- Returns fewer results
Combining Keywords: OR

- Use OR to combine synonyms or related terms
- Results can contain either/any of your keywords
- Expands your search
- Returns more results
Combining Keywords

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AND

OR

OR
Finding Scholarly Journal Articles

1. Start at the UTSC Library homepage.
2. On the top right side of the screen, under the Database heading, click on By Subject A-Z.
3. Click on the letter S along the top of the screen, and then select Sociology from the list of subjects.
4. The subject page for Sociology lists recommended databases with scholarly journal content.
Finding Scholarly Journal Articles

Example search: poverty AND housing AND Canada

- Sociological Abstracts
- Social Sciences Citation Index
- International Bibliography of the Social Sciences
- Canadian Business & Current Affairs
Managing Results

- Apply limiters: source type, publication date, peer-review
- Adjust the search field for key terms
- Narrow topic: focus on a specific aspect of the topic
  - Add more keywords to the search; combine with AND
  - Search using subject term(s)
- Broaden topic: generalize or expand the search
  - Think of “umbrella” or parent concepts for your terms, the perform a search using these more general concepts
  - Add synonyms and related terms; combine with OR
Finding Books

1. Start at the UTSC Library homepage.

2. On the top right side of the screen, under Catalogue search, click on Books.

3. Enter your keywords into the search box, and select Go.

4. Apply any desired limiters, e.g.
   a. Check off the “online” option for eBooks
   b. Limit results to the Scarborough campus library
Get a Book Delivered to UTSC Library!

- On the book’s record, click on the Options button, and select Request
- Click on Request Intercampus Delivery
- Select UofT Scarborough as the delivery location
- Your book should arrive in 2-5 business days
Plagiarism

- Presenting the work, ideas, or words of another as your own, even by accident
- Taking an idea or language from someone else, without adequately crediting the source
Plagiarism Examples

1. **Direct plagiarism**: copying entire sentences or paragraphs from another source and using them in your paper without providing credit.

2. **Mosaic plagiarism**: blending copied words, phrases, or ideas in with your own words without crediting the source.

3. **Improper paraphrasing or summarizing**: putting an author’s ideas into your own words without crediting the source.
Avoiding Plagiarism

- **Quotation**: if you use the author’s exact words
- **Paraphrasing**: restating someone else’s ideas in your own words, at roughly the same level of detail
- **Summarizing**: reducing the most essential points of someone else’s work into shorter form
Citation

You must provide credit to the original source whenever you:

- Quote, paraphrase, or summarize
- Rely on specific facts as evidence for your argument or interpretation
- Introduce distinctive or authoritative ideas
In groups, complete the exercises on the SOCB44 course guide:

https://guides.library.utoronto.ca/SOCB44
Need help?

Course Guide: https://uoft.me/socb44

Sociology Librarian: Kathryn Barrett
kathryn.barrett@utoronto.ca

UTSC Writing Centre
Research help at UTSC Library