

TIPS FROM LIBRARY LAND

Ritchey Science & Engineering Fair 2023

<p style="text-align: center;">Getting Started: Reminders</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Your LibGuide</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://libguides.weber.edu/ritchey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search the library • Search Google Scholar • Research Tips • Using Databases: Pro Tips • Evaluating & Citing Sources • The CRAAP Test • Ask a Librarian <p style="text-align: center;">Contact me Miranda Kispert, Science Librarian mirandakispert@weber.edu</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">About The Library</p> <p>We're back! The library is now open to community members – please come see us!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">But that doesn't mean you can't get help online!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chat or text to talk to someone at the Reference Desk at Stewart Library!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">You don't have to be a Weber State student to get help:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://library.weber.edu/menu/help</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Where To Start Your Search</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OneSearch</p> <p>Find books, articles, and more, in one place – just start on the library home page. Come to campus to access online full text! https://library.weber.edu</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Google Scholar</p> <p>Search for scholarly articles on your topic. Connect to Stewart Library or your school or public library: Click the menu icon in the top left, select Settings, then choose Library Links and search for your library! https://scholar.google.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Utah's Online Library for K-12</p> <p>Access article databases, reference materials, and other online resources provided for student use by the state of Utah! https://utahsonlinelibrary.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Tips</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What's your research question?</p> <p>This can be an excellent way to articulate the problem and identify key words that will help guide your searching!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Good research questions</p> <p>Good research questions usually can't be answered by a simple fact, number, or Google search, and rarely result in yes or no answers – instead they explore the WHY of the yes or no.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What are other ways to ask the question?</p> <p>Look for synonyms for the concepts you're exploring – this will give you new ways to search!</p> <p>Think about the many ways other researchers might have asked the same question as you, or parts of your question.</p>

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Using Library Search Tools

These tips will help you effectively use the online tools from Stewart Library and the Utah Online Library.

Keywords

Search with the most important words from your research question (& synonyms).

AND – OR – NOT

Your search results will include every word that is connected with AND.
When you search with OR, you'll get one or the other, but not necessarily both.
NOT excludes all results with that keyword.

Limiters

Use database limiters (usually to the left of your results) to limit the number of results: Choose scholarly/peer reviewed articles, full text only, or limit by date or subject!

Evaluating Information

*How do you know the information you've found is trustworthy?
By evaluating your sources before you use them – especially if you're not an expert.
If you're still not sure, ask a librarian!*

Look for information on your website, blog, article, book, or other source that can tell you how credible – or believable – it is. Who made it? **Are they an expert? Can you tell?**

Check for clues that tell you where they got their information. Sometimes there is a list of references, but not always. **How good do those sources look?**

Some information is designed to persuade you to a certain point of view. Is your source biased? **Were they paid by someone, or unbalanced in the sources they cited?**

The CRAAP Test

CURRENCY:

Is up to date info important for your topic? Is there a publication or posting date?

RELEVANCE

Is enough of the information on your topic to make it worthwhile?

AUTHORITY

Who is the author or creator? Is there a good reason to trust (or not trust) their information?

ACCURACY

Is the information correct? Double-check.

PURPOSE

To inform? Persuade? Sell? Check for bias.

Giving Credit: Cite Your Sources

In-Text Citations

This is meant to tell your audience where every single piece of information you used came from – each one points us to a complete reference in your list of references.

List of References

This is where you tell your audience all about your sources: the whole list of places you collected the information you use to support your project and back up your conclusions!

Citation Help

- [APA Assistant from Miranda Kispert](#)
- [MLA Assistant from Miranda Kispert](#)
- [Online Style Guide from the APA](#)
- [Online Style Guide from the MLA](#)
- [Purdue OWL: APA](#)
- [Purdue OWL: MLA](#)