Researching Across Disciplines

Strategies and Tools Available to HUSL Students

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Planning Your Research Strategy

1. Select your topic
   - Where do you begin your research?
2. Receive Professor feedback
   - What type of resources are available?
   - What are the best strategies to employ on those resources?
Timeline Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
<th>Day 5</th>
<th>Day 6</th>
<th>Day 7</th>
<th>Day 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Searching</td>
<td>Advanced Legal Research</td>
<td>Synthesizing</td>
<td>Writing</td>
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- Multidisciplinary Research

Research Deadline
Suggested Practices: Building a Search Vocabulary

- Identify the who, what, where, when, why, and how
- Brainstorm keywords and phrases
- Think of abstract and concrete concepts
“Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose.”
- Zora Neale Hurston

Son
  **Broader:**
  - Child

  **Narrower:**
  - Brandon

  **Related:**
  - Parent
  - Guardian

Pregnant
  **Broader:**
  - Expecting a baby
  - Expecting
  - With child

  **Narrower:**
  - Parturient
  - Gravid

  **Related:**
  - Conceive
Suggested Practices: Conducting Background Research

- Search Google for organizations that may have a stake in your topic
- Use the *site:* feature on Google to limit results to U.S. Government websites (.gov) or Academic websites (.edu)
- Refer to Google’s Boolean Logic rules
- Search Google Scholar and use the Versions / Cited By / Related features
Google: “Black heterosexual female” OR “black female” OR “black women” AND “intimate partner violence” OR “domestic violence” site:.gov
Google Scholar: Enter a basic search for phrases: “victim credibility” AND “black women” OR “black females” AND “domestic violence” OR “intimate partner violence”
Suggested Practices: Tracking and Organizing Research

- Create an annotated bibliography based on the outline of your paper
- Collect bibliographic information in an Excel Spreadsheet
- Use folders and tagging on your computer
# Journal Articles

1. LAW JOURNALS & REVIEWS

2. SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES:
   a. HeinOnline
   b. JSTOR
   c. EBSCOhost
      i. Academic Search Premier
      ii. PsycARTICLES
      iii. PsycINFO
      iv. SocINDEX with Full Text

# Books

1. PRINT BOOKS:
   a. ONLINE CATALOGS:
      i. WRLC Catalog
      ii. WorldCat

2. ELECTRONIC BOOKS:
   a. DATABASES:
      i. Oxford Scholarship Online
      ii. ProQuest ebrary
Suggested Practices:

Law Journals & Law Reviews

- Access the specific collection on Lexis, Westlaw, Bloomberg Law, or HeinOnline
- Locate and use the “Advanced Search” feature
- On search forms select “Full Text” search options
Lexis Advance: Open “Law Review & Journals”; Use Boolean Logic to Search: “sub-Saharan immigrants” OR “sub-Saharan communities” OR immigrants /50 “intimate partner violence” OR “domestic violence”
Secondary Sources: Log into Westlaw; In the “All Content” box click “Secondary Sources” and “Law Reviews & Journals”; Search: “employment law” OR “economic abuse” /25 “domestic violence” OR “intimate partner violence”
Suggested Practices:
Subscription Database Searching

- Access HU Libraries A-Z listing of databases
- Locate and use the “Advanced Search” feature
- On search forms select “Full Text” search options
library.howard.edu/library: Select: “Databases”; Select: first letter of the database; Select: database title; Enter: HU username and password (username: first part of HUSL email before @ symbol; password: same as your HUSL email password)
EBSCOhost-Academic Search Premier: Select “Advanced Search”; Enter Search: gender AND “police force”
JSTOR: Select “Advanced Search”; Enter Search: “black men”; Pre-Filter: “Criminology & Criminal Justice” and “Law”; Run search; Search within Results: disproportionate; Post-Filter: 2010-2019
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Practices: Catalog Searching for Books</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WRLC</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sign in to see full results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use the “Advanced Search”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use “any field” and “contains” to limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WorldCat, Oxford Scholarship Online, and ProQuest ebrary</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use the “Advanced Search”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fill in appropriate fields to search for on point books</td>
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</table>
WRLC Catalog: library.law.howard.edu; Click “Sign In”; Select “Network ID”; Enter: HU username and password (username: first part of HUSL email before @ symbol; password: same as your HUSL email password)
WRLC Catalog: library.law.howard.edu; Click “Catalog”; On the Advanced Search form select “Title” and “contains”: “police culture” OR “police training” OR “law enforcement culture” OR “law enforcement training”
Data and Statistics

1. SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES:
   a. Statista
   b. Inter-University Consortium for Political & Social Research

2. FREE DATABASES:
   a. UN Dept. of Economics & Social Affairs: Gender Statistics Worldwide
   b. World Bank: Gender Statistics
   c. Database of Transgender Homicides

3. FREE WEBSITES:
   a. Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law: LGBTstats
   b. FBI: Uniform Crime Reporting
      i. Hate Crime
      ii. Human Trafficking
   c. United States Census Bureau: Same Sex Couples
Statista: Statistics Drop-Down Menu: “Topic Overview”; Search for Topic: gender inequality; Expand Search by checking off resource types: Statistics, Infographics, Topics, Dossiers, and Additional studies, then click the “Refresh Search” button in the search box.
News and Current Awareness

1. SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES:
   a. Ethnic NewsWatch
   b. Legal News
   c. Newspapers

2. WEBSITES
   a. Howard University: National and International News and Media Resources
   b. UN WomenWatch
Legal News on Lexis: Log into Lexis; Select “Legal News” from the “Content Type” box; Select “Immigration” Practice Area; Search: “sub-Saharan communities” OR “sub-Saharan immigrants” OR “sub-Saharan” AND “domestic violence” OR “intimate partner violence”
Newspapers: library.law.howard.edu/multidisciplinary; Click “News”; Scroll down to the publication of interest and click the title; Enter your search term: incarceration; Apply post-search filters to your results to focus in on a specific time period
UN Women’s Watch: http://www.unwomen.org/en; Click the search icon; Enter a search string using phrases: “family dispute” “rights of children” “children’s rights”; Review results
Historical Information

1. SUBSCRIPTION ARCHIVES:
   a. Accessible Archives
   b. Archives Unbound

2. SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES:
   a. ProQuest Historical Newspapers
   b. Black Studies Center
   c. Oxford African American Studies Center
   d. EBSCOhost
      i. America: Life & History
Suggested Practices: Website Searching

- Locate and use the “Advanced Search” feature
- On search forms select “Full Text” search options
- Use google.com/advanced_search to run a search over the website’s domain
google.com/advanced_search: Exact Phrases: “family dispute” “rights of children” “children’s rights”; Domain Search:
http://womenwatch.unwomen.org/
For Your Reference:

http://library.law.howard.edu/multidisciplinary
Research Consultations

with Ms. Capatosto

Email me to schedule an appointment:

victoria.capatosto@law.howard.edu

Stop by during my office hours:

Mondays, 2:30pm-4:30pm
Need Help with Off-Campus Access?

Contact:

Mr. Happ, Access Services Librarian

jason.happ@law.howard.edu

202.806.8104