RDG090: College Reading & Learning Skills (Gautie)

Libguide: [http://libguides.bristolcc.edu/rdg090/gautie](http://libguides.bristolcc.edu/rdg090/gautie)

Research and Instruction Librarian: Emily Brown
emily.brown@bristolcc.edu
774.357.3040

**Finding Help**

**Chat:** Chat reference service are available online. A librarian is available to chat during research help hours.

**Telephone:** Contact the research help desk at 508-678-2811 ext. 2108.

**In person:** A librarian is available at the research help desk at the following times:
- Monday through Thursday: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
- Friday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00 pm

**Book-A-Librarian (appointment):** This service is open to all BCC students, faculty, and staff. You can "book" time with a librarian (up to 60 minutes) so that we can sit down and help you, one-on-one, with your research.

**E-mail:** Complete the form on the help page, and a librarian will e-mail you back with answers and suggestions. You will receive a reply within 2 business days.

**Resource Overview**

For your assignment you will need to use at least to find several credible sources. Here's what we’ll be covering today.

- Identify a Theme
- Find Definitions
- Find Books & eBooks
- Find Articles
KEYWORD SEARCHING

Phrase Searching
Phrase searching allows you to search for a phrase, as opposed to individual words. To complete a phrase search, use quotation marks around two or more word phrases. This will give you far more specific results.

Example: human spirituality = 303 results
“human spirituality” = 77 results

Truncation
Truncation allows a researcher to search for multiple endings for a single word in a single search instead of trying spelling variations in multiple searches. Most databases require the use of the asterisk (*) as the truncation symbol. If you’re not sure what a database requires, consult a librarian or the Help Menu of the database.

Example: spirit* finds items with the words spirit, spirits, spirited, spiritual, spirituality etc.

Choosing Keywords
Choosing your search words, or keywords, correctly can mean the difference between relevant and irrelevant results. Start with your thesis statement or question for inspiration on choosing keywords.

Example: The wilderness has an impact on human spirituality.

- If this were your thesis statement, logical keywords and alternative keywords could be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>wilderness</th>
<th>spirituality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>nature</td>
<td>peace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Alternative keywords help to identify other words that may be used in articles to say the same thing. Choosing alternative keywords is almost as important as choosing your main search terms.

Boolean Logic
Using Boolean Logic in your advanced search means that you are using command words (Boolean operators) to connect your search terms. Boolean Logic allows you to conduct a more specific search and find relevant and specific information. The three Boolean operators are AND, OR, and NOT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AND</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>NOT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Search Results will contain all terms used.</td>
<td>Search results will contain at least 1 term used.</td>
<td>Search results will not contain the eliminated word.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wilderness AND spirituality</td>
<td>wilderness OR nature</td>
<td>spirituality NOT reality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINDING BOOKS & EBOOKS

The SAILS Library Catalog

Use the library catalog to find print books, electronic books, and streaming videos. The SAILS Library Catalog allows BCC students to request books from any SAILS Library through the catalog interface as long as the student has registered their BCC Campus Card.

Note: Students attending classes in Taunton may use the Taunton Public Library to pick up books requested through the SAILS Catalog.

Narrow to BCC Libraries

Click on more, then select the BCC Library most appropriate for your search. Narrowing to BCC Libraries after you have conducted your initial search will allow you to see what books you have immediate access to on each campus.

Call Numbers

To find books on the shelves at any BCC Library, you need the books’ call number. A call number is arranged within a system called the Library of Congress Classification system. But, do these numbers mean anything?

The first two letters are classifications based on the main subject and narrower subject of the book. The first set of numbers narrows the topic further. After the decimal, the next set of numbers is a code for the authors name. Sometimes a call number ends with the date of publication.

Main Subject (N=Fine Arts)  Subheading (NB=Sculpture)  Author’s last name initial & number code

NB1170 .S35 1993

Further refinement of subheading  Year of publication
MORE BOOKS & EBOOKS

Books & eBooks in the SAILS Library Catalog

In the SAILS Library Catalog you can narrow by format. Choosing a format allows you to determine what type of material you would like- be that physical books, electronic books, streaming videos, DVDs, or even audio books and other materials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Include</th>
<th>Exclude</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Resource</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video recording</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video disc</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio disc</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After conducting a search in the SAILS Library Catalog, choose to narrow by Format.

The selections on the left would bring back both physical books and electronic books.

ebrary

ebrary is an electronic book database to which Bristol Community College Libraries subscribes. You can locate ebrary books within the SAILS Library Catalog, or by going directly to the ebrary database on the A-Z Database page of the library website.

The full text of an electronic book can be searched in order to find the exact location within the text that pertains to your research. BCC students may also create a free account in order to highlight text, create bookshelves, and compose notes within the electronic books themselves.

The Commonwealth Catalog

If you can’t find the book you’re looking for in the SAILS Library Catalog or ebrary, the Commonwealth Catalog (http://www.commonwealthcatalog.org) will allow you request a book be delivered to your local BCC campus from anywhere in Massachusetts with your BCC Campus Card barcode.

-> Interlibrary Loan: Books

Interlibrary Loan is a system that allows you to request books not found in either the SAILS Library Catalog or the Commonwealth Catalog. You can request books by going to the BCC Library Homepage and clicking on Interlibrary Loan. To request books you will need your BCC Campus Card barcode number.

Streaming Videos

The Library subscribes to a streaming video database called Films on Demand (FOD). You can access FOD directly through our A-Z Database page, or through the SAILS Library Catalog.
FINDING ARTICLES

Periodicals
What is a periodical? Magazines, journals, and newspapers are called periodicals— and they do, in fact, come periodically. They are published at regular, periodic intervals throughout the year. Periodical articles are generally shorter, more current, and more focused on specific topics than books.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Magazines &amp; Newspapers</th>
<th>Trade Journals*</th>
<th>Scholarly &amp; Peer Reviewed Articles**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Level</td>
<td>General Public</td>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>Academics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>High School or Lower</td>
<td>High School or College</td>
<td>College or Graduate School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None or Minimal</td>
<td>Some Documentation, but not Consistent</td>
<td>Fully Documented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorship</td>
<td>Staff Reporter or Free-Lance Writer</td>
<td>Staff, Free-lance, or Contributing Professional Writer</td>
<td>Academician or Credentialed Researcher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Trade journals contain information for people working in a particular profession

**Scholarly or Peer Reviewed Articles have been reviewed by professionals in the same field as the author.

Finding Articles
BCC Libraries offer a variety of databases in which you can locate magazine, newspaper, trade, and scholarly journal articles. Please check our Databases by Subject, Research Subject Guides, and Databases A-Z in order to choose the most appropriate database.

- BCC students have access to several subject specific databases through BCC Libraries. Subject specific databases enable you to search specific journals within your topic of research.

- BCC Librarians have created multiple Research Subject Guides that will help you to choose the correct subject specific database.

- Interlibrary Loan: Articles
As with books, BCC students can use Interlibrary loan to request journal, magazine, or newspaper articles.

The process is the same, though you would select “Periodicals” when choosing the format of your request. Several BCC Library databases allow you to place an Interlibrary Loan request directly through the database itself.