LITERATURE REVIEW – LIBRARY RESEARCH FOR HXGH6101

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OBJECTIVES

AT THE END OF THE SESSION YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Conduct a library research

- Identify various types of information sources / library source

- Able to locate items in the library and web site

- Know effective method of searching

- Know online databases relevant to your study area / subject matter

- Use and cite information
Content of Session

- How to conduct a library research
- How to cite information
RESEARCH PROCESS

- Research is often a circular process of planning, searching, finding, reviewing, evaluating, refining and searching again.

- Keeping accurate records of search strategies used in catalogues, databases, indexes and the Internet will allow you to easily retrace and refine your search strategies as your research develops.
LIBRARY RESEARCH

1. Identify topic
2. Look for information background
3. Use catalogue to search for items
4. Use Indexes / Abstracts to search journal articles
5. Get sources from the internet
6. Evaluate results
7. “Cite” what you have found and used
STEP 1: IDENTIFY TOPIC

WRITE TOPIC IN ONE STATEMENT

[Eg: The impact of 1997 economic crisis in Malaysia]

IDENTIFY SCOPE OF SEARCH

[Research in economic crisis and only in Malaysia, for the year 1997 only]

OTHER SEARCH PARAMETER
- Date
- Language
- Range of publication (Eg: 2000 -2005)

IDENTIFY KEYWORD

INCORPORATE ABOVE AS YOU SEARCH PROFILE
STEP 2: FIND INFORMATION BACKGROUND

- REFER TO ENCYCLOPEDIAS
- GET ADDITIONAL BOOKS FROM:
  - TEXT BOOKS
  - ARTICLES FROM JOURNALS
  - REPORTS, ETC.
STEP 3 : USE LIBRARY CATALOGUE TO SEARCH FOR PRINTED ITEMS IN THE LIBRARY

USE THE FOLLOWING SEARCH OPTIONS :

- AUTHOR
- TITLE
- PERIODICAL TITLE
- SUBJECT
- WORDS OR PHRASE
STEP 4: USE ONLINE DATABASES TO SEARCH FOR ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- e-JOURNALS
- e-BOOKS
SpringerLink
STEP 5: SEARCH FOR SOURCES IN THE NET

- USE:
  - Search Engine - Eg: Altavista, Google
  - Meta Search Engine - Eg: Metacrawler, Dogpile
  - Web Directories - Eg: Yahoo, Open Directory Project
A web search engine is designed to search for information on the World Wide Web. The search results are usually presented in a list of results and are commonly called *hits*.

The information may consist of web pages, images, information and other types of files. Some search engines also mine data available in databases or open directories.

Unlike Web directories, which are maintained by human editors, search engines operate algorithmically or are a mixture of algorithmic and human input.
A meta-search engine is a search tool that sends user requests to several other search engines and/or databases and aggregates the results into a single list or displays them according to their source.

Metasearch engines enable users to enter search criteria once and access several search engines simultaneously.

A web directory or link directory is a directory on the World Wide Web. It specializes in linking to other web sites and categorizing those links.

A web directory is not a search engine and does not display lists of web pages based on keywords; instead, it lists web sites by category and subcategory.
STEP 6 : EVALUATE RESULTS

- Relevance – make sure information is appropriate for topic eg. historically, statistically, overview or critical analysis
- Currency – examine date of book or journal
- Reliability and accuracy - Refereed or peer reviewed journals only publish articles that have been evaluated by experts in the relevant field. Also check for author’s credentials by looking at the qualification.
STEP 7: LIST YOUR REFERENCES

- cite sources to avoid plagiarism and to acknowledge the writings of other authors

EXAMPLES OF CITATION STYLE:

- MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION STYLE (MLA STYLE)
- VANCOUVER STYLE
- HARVARD STYLE
- CHICAGO STYLE
INFORMATION SKILLS SESSION FOR POST-GRADUATES

EndNote Reference Management Software – Every Tuesday

Pendeta Discovery (Web Public Access Catalogue) – Every Wednesday

Online Databases – Every Friday

Time: 9.00 am

Venue: Computer Lab C, Level 4, Main Library

Login and register online at:
http://www.diglib.um.edu.my/interaktif