



College Writing II Student Assignment – Library Research

***** ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ONE WEEK FROM THE DAY THEY ARE GIVEN OUT *****

Name _____ Instructor _____ Points _____/50

First things first! Let's make sure you have your MRC Library account set up....

I have a Student ID card and I went to the Library Circ Desk to receive my Library Barcode sticker. My 14 –digit account number is _____ and my Library Password is _____

Choosing your topic & thesis statement (2 points)

My topic for my College Writing II project is _____

The question or argument that is the focus of your research is called your **thesis statement**. Develop a research question or argument dealing with your topic. (3 points) _____

**Exercises 1-5 can be done from any off-campus computer (home, office, etc.)
Research your topic using the following sources on the MRC Library Web page at
<http://www.mr.mnscu.edu/academics/library>**

- 1) Search the [MnPALS Plus](#) online catalog for resources in the Mesabi Range College Library collection. Print & attach the Bib record for one item in the MRC Library (book, videotape, DVD, CD or AudioBook) *that can be checked out*...This excludes Reference items and Electronic Books! (5 points)

- 2) From the [MnPALS Plus](#) dropdown menu for libraries, change “Mesabi Range College” to “**All Libraries**” and search the online catalog for resources in ALL MnPALS Libraries. From your list of results, choose one item *that can be checked out* by clicking on the Title of that item. Make sure that the item is not owned by Mesabi Range, and that it is an item that could be borrowed via InterLibrary Loan (i.e., not an e-Book, Reference book or other non-circulating item). Print & attach the Bib record for one item from some other MnPALS Library. (5 points)

- 3) Search the [MnPALS Plus](#) online catalog for “**All Libraries**” once more for a second resource in ANY OTHER MnPALS Library - **do not use the same record you found for #2 above!** Be sure that the item is not owned by Mesabi Range. When you find an item that would provide good research for your topic, look for the “**Login**” link under the “Request Item” tab. (5 points)
 - a) Click on the “Login” button and then fill in your Library barcode (20212....) and Password (your last name)
 - b) Click on the “Request” button and then click on the “Create ILL Request” button at the top of the form.
 - c) If you did the above steps correctly you will receive a confirmation page that says “Your request was sent”. **If you did not get the confirmation page, re-do your request**
 - d) Print and attach a copy of your ILL request confirmation page
 - e) If you **DO NOT** actually want to borrow the item, please go to “My Account”, find your ILL request and **CANCEL** your request!!
 - f) If you **DO** want to borrow this item, let the request continue to process, and remember:
 - it will take 4-6 days for the item to arrive
 - you will receive a notice to pick up your item at the MRC Library Circ Desk
 - the item must be returned to the Mesabi Library by its Due Date for shipment back to the Loaning Library


- 4) Go to **e-books** on the Library Web page under Research Tools to find an electronic book on your topic: (5 points)
- Search by Keyword** to find a book with information on your topic
 - “View”** the e-book and use the **“search” feature** to locate a page with good research information on your topic
 - Print, label & attach one page only from the e-book (if you cannot print directly from the NetLibrary site, you may need to “copy & paste” the page to a Word document and then print & attach that page)
 - Remember to “Close” the e-book when you are done

- 5) Under Other Library catalogs, click on **Arrowhead Public Libraries** on the Library Web page and choose **Browse Regional Catalog**. (5 points)



- Click on **Search Types** and do a **General Keyword** search to find a book on your topic at any Arrowhead Public Library.
- Select one book from the list, then print out and attach the Bib record for that item.
- On your printout, indicate the book **Title**, the **Call Number**, and the **name of the Public Library** that holds this item.

Exercises 6-8 Now experiment by researching your topic using the Research Databases found on the Library Web page under the heading “Research Tools”.

- 6) On the Library homepage, click on the link for **ProQuest**:  (5 points)

- From the Proquest products listed, click on **Proquest Newstand Complete**
- ProQuest page** => Use the pulldown menu for “Database” and make you’ve chosen **News - ProQuest Newspapers**.
- Check the **Full Text** box, and then enter your term(s) in the **Search** box
- Click on the **“Newspapers” tab** to find a full text newspaper article.
- Print & attach the first page only of a newspaper article on your topic.

- 7) On the Library homepage, click on **INFOTRAC**:  (5 points)

- On the InfoTrac page, click on **“Professional Collection”**
- Do a Basic Keyword search by entering your search term(s) in the **Find** box. Click on **“More Search Options”** and limit your search to retrieve just the articles that are **Full Text**.
- Choose either the **Academic Journals** or **Magazines** tab and find **ONE** full text article relevant to your topic
- Print & attach the first page only of the article

- 8) On the Library homepage, click on the link for EBSCO:  (10 points) **Must have TWO printouts from EBSCO**

- Pick any one of these three **EBSCO** databases to search for journal articles on your topic: **Academic Search Premier, MasterFILE Premier, or EBSCO MegaFILE**
- Do a Search by entering your word(s) in the search box. Refine your search by limiting your results to Full Text (check box). You also have the options to limit your results to articles from Scholarly Journals only, by date or range of dates, or by publication, if you like....
- From the Results list, choose one article that contains good research information by clicking on the Title or Full Text
- Print & attach the first page of the article
- Now, again choose any other one of these three EBSCO databases to search for a **second EBSCO journal article** on your topic: **Academic Search Premier, MasterFILE Premier, or EBSCO MegaFILE**
- Follow steps b-d and attach the first page from a second EBSCO journal article on your topic

9) **SurveyMonkey**

- On the Library Home page, under "Research Tools", there is a link for "**Library Session Survey**". Please click into the survey and complete the 6 questions. This survey is anonymous, so feel free to answer the questions honestly.
- Once you've completed the survey, the results are automatically sent to me - there is nothing to printout or attach.

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Questions?? Need assistance?? Call me (218-749-7778) or e-mail me at L.Chilcote@mr.mnscu.edu