Research at the Library

The library provides many resources for students, many of which can be accessed through the library website. This activity will allow you to explore the website to find three of the most useful library resources: books, articles and librarians who can help you. You will:

- Learn how to find a book using the library’s Discovery search box on the home page
- Find an article from a reliable periodical using the library’s Discovery search box
- Use the library website to identify someone who could help if you have trouble finding information

Step One: Choose Keywords:
Your task is to find out what kind of resources that the library has to offer on the topic of __________. (Fill in the blank with a topic of your choice, or one provided by your instructor.) Below, jot down a word or phrase you might use to find information on the broad subject you’ve chosen. These words or phrases are called keywords, and when we use them in a search box on a website, it’s called keyword searching.

HINT: Don’t forget that you may need to brainstorm synonyms for your topic (similar words/phrases that mean the same thing).

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Step Two: Find a Book
Using each of the keywords above, try out the Discovery search box near the top right corner of the TCC library website home page (library.tulsacc.edu).

HINT: A catalog search works best if you enter a noun or noun phrase (person, place, thing or idea). Then analyze the results of your search by answering the following questions.

Use the filters on the left-hand side of the Discovery screen to narrow your search results to “Books.” Choose one book from your list of results and note its information below:

Title:_________________________________________________________________________________

Publication Date: _______________________________________________________________________

Print or eBook? _________________________________________________________________________

Is the book available at TCC? If so, which TCC campus? _________________________________

What is the book’s Library of Congress call number? ______________________________________

Using the subject headings (found in the Description section of the record) of the book, can you find the title of another book over the same subject?

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Step Three: Find an Article
Next, using the filters on the left-hand side of the Discovery screen, narrow your list of search results to “Articles.” Choose one article from the list of results and note its information below.

(Note: if there are no articles available, use your browser back button to start over or use your initial search results list.)

Title: ____________________________________________________________
Journal Title (Source): ____________________________________________
Publication Date: _________________________________________________
Database: _________________________________________________________
Available online through TCC? ______________________________________

Step Four: Find a Librarian
Go back to the library homepage (library.tulsacc.edu) and look at the Staff Directory under the “About” column.

Choose a librarian at a convenient campus, then find and write down the following information:

Librarian’s name: _________________________________________________
Office phone number: _____________________________________________
Email address: ____________________________________________________

Go back to the homepage (library.tulsacc.edu) and look up this librarian under “Schedule a Research Consultation.”

When is this librarian typically available for research consultations? (i.e., a particular day of the week, time of day, etc.?)
____________________________________________________________________

Please bring this completed worksheet to the library if you visit with your class.