



Research Strategy

Basic Steps:

- ◆ Choose a topic. Be specific. Narrow the topic, or focus on one aspect.
- ◆ Find general, definitive information on the topic, as in a subject specific encyclopedia.
- ◆ Locate articles and books on the topic.



“Ask a Librarian or Live Chat”

Call 608-342-1668
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General Research Strategy

- ⇒ Search for books and e-books on the topic.
 - ⇒ Use library web pages and databases to find journal or newspaper articles on the topic.
 - ⇒ Consult general or specialized encyclopedias, like *Van Nostrand's Scientific Encyclopedia* Ref Q121 .V3
 - ⇒ Find information such as statistical data or maps. Try the links from the library's **Reference Resources** web pages:
 - ⇒ Consult biographical sources if you need information on a person's accomplishments or professional activities. See databases: *Biography Ref Bank Select*, *Biography and Genealogy Master Index*
- Use links found on the library's **Biographies** web pages.

To Find Books

Use **Search @ UW** to find books or DVDs.

Access Search @ UW from the **library's web page**.

Examples of searches in "Books & Media (UW Platteville)":

bioethics AND "united states"

engineer? AND handbook

psychology AND statistic?

Ask at the Reference Desk for help and for **guides**.



To Find Newspaper Articles

The Karmann Library offers full text access to current and archived newspaper articles through, for example, *Newspaper Source Plus* and *LexisNexis Academic*.

Visit the library's **Newspapers and TV News** page.

To Find Journal Articles

Many journal articles are available through the **library's web pages**. Use **Search @ UW** and select "Articles" from the dropdown menu to the right of the search window. Librarians are available to suggest possible search strategies. You can also select databases and resources from lists found on library pages called **Resources by Subject**.

While most articles are available online, some still need to be located in print or on microfilm or borrowed from another library (ILL). To do so, obtain a full citation to the article. Printed or microfilmed journals are shelved alphabetically by title on the first floor.

Ask at the Reference Desk about ILL.

Examples of Statistical Sources

Statistical Abstract of the United States

Print format: Ref HA202

Injury Facts Ref HA217 .A4

Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics

Print format—library's 3rd floor:
Gov. Pubs. Dept. J 29.9/6:

