

Research Resources - CAS 404

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Web Pages You Should Know

Blissell Library Homepage: <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/newkensington.html>

Penn State University Libraries Homepage: <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul.html>

News Magazines

<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/nml/magindex.html>

Look at current news magazines, representing various viewpoints, to get ideas for topics. Try searching a conservative and a liberal magazine to learn about both sides of an issue.

Editorials can also help in this respect. http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/socialsciences/research_tools_for.html#edi

Congressional Research Service Reports (accessible from the libraries homepage, under Databases A-Z).

Research papers written by staff of the Congressional Research Service, a "legislative branch agency within the Library of Congress", for use by members of Congress. Provide objective, non-partisan analysis of public policy issues before the legislature.

Getting More from Current Issues Databases

CQ Researcher and Opposing Viewpoints are both accessible from the University Libraries homepage, under the heading Find Articles and Databases, Try These First.

Both databases contain information about current issues and are considered reputable resources- they provide coverage of both sides of a topic.

CQ Researcher reports each have a Bibliography for further reading. Opposing Viewpoints reports, called Viewpoints, have further reading lists at the end of the articles.

Citation Linker

Penn State provides a resource for finding articles electronically using a citation. The resource, called Citation Linker, is available from the University Libraries webpage under the heading Find Articles and Databases.

The screenshot shows the 'Citation Linker' search interface. At the top, it says 'University Libraries' and 'Citation Linker'. Below that, a small instruction reads: 'Enter as much citation information as you have. The system will work best if you enter the full journal title or ISSN and the date.' The form includes several input fields: 'article title' (with a dropdown menu), 'journal title' (with a dropdown menu), 'date' (with a dropdown menu), 'volume' and 'issue' (with dropdown menus), 'start page' and 'end page' (with input fields), 'ISSN' (with an input field), and 'print' (with a dropdown menu). At the bottom, there are fields for 'last name', 'first name', 'initials', and 'author' (with a dropdown menu). The 'Get It!' logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the form.

Citation Linker searches multiple databases. If the article is found in one of the databases owned by Penn State, you are provided a link to the database.

ILLIAD

If Penn State does not own the article of the book you wish to borrow, you could request the item through Interlibrary Loan. At Penn State, the system students and faculty use to request items is called ILLIAD. You can access ILLIAD from the University Libraries homepage, from the top of the page.

The screenshot shows the Penn State ILLiad homepage. At the top, it says "UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES Welcome to Penn State ILLiad". Below this is a navigation menu with options like "Logoff aer123", "Main Menu", and "Search the CAT". A callout bubble points to the "Search the CAT" link, stating "Place requests for materials here." Another callout bubble points to the "View Outstanding Requests" link, stating "View outstanding requests here." The main content area features a table titled "Electronically Received Articles" with columns for Transaction, View, Size, and Title. A callout bubble points to the "View" column, stating "View received articles from the main screen." To the right, there are sections for "Please verify account info." and "New for Faculty/ Article Delivery".

ILLIAD requires you to log in, and after the log in, you can request either articles or books. Many times articles are scanned and are made available through ILLIAD (View/ Download Electronically Received Articles).

The screenshot shows the "Get It! Services for this record from the Penn State University Libraries" page. The page displays details for a record: "Source: Radiologic technology [0033-8397] yr:2008 vol:79 iss:6". Under the "Full text" section, it says "Check other services. No full text available for this item." Under the "Holding information" section, it asks "Does Penn State own in paper or microform? Check The CAT" with a "GO" button. Under the "ILL" section, it says "If Penn State does not own this item, get the document from another library via ILLiad" and "Authentication: Available only to Penn State Faculty, Staff and Students" with a "GO" button circled in green. Other sections include "Reference" with a "GO" button, "Web Service" with a "GO" button, and "HERSHEY Users" with a "GO" button. A notice at the bottom states: "NOTICE: All Penn State databases are licensed for non-profit, educational use only."

When you use the Get It button, if the article is not available in Full Text (electronically) you will have the option of clicking on ILL. You will be asked to log in, but by using this button, you will not need to fill in all of the required information.

Annotated Bibliographies

The OWL at Purdue has a great guide to writing annotated bibliographies: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/>