Successfully Using the Library for Research

This assignment will teach you how to do basic research using OCCC Library resources. We will cover how to narrow your topic, how to search the Library catalog, and how to find articles in a database.

1. Circle one topic below that you’d like to research today.

   Alternative Energy   History of Music   Mythology   US Healthcare

2. Brainstorm the topic you’ve chosen above using the concept cloud below. Remember, there are no wrong answers when you brainstorm keywords. Use the questions in the corners to help you think of keywords. Be sure to come up with at least two keywords per corner.

3. Narrow the topic you circled above by listing at least two keywords you will combine to focus your research effort.
4. From the Library’s website, under **Find**, select **Books**. Find a book or video in the **Library Catalog** using your chosen keywords on the previous page (question #3). Choose one item from the search results list. List the title and call number.

   Item Title: __________________________________________
   Call Number: _______________________________________

5. Go back to the Library’s website. Under **Find**, select **Articles**, choose **EBSCOhost**. Perform a search in EBSCOhost’s **MasterFILE Premier** database using the same keywords on the previous page. Choose one article from your results list. What is the name of the article and what source was the article published in?

   Article Title: __________________________________________
   Source Title: _______________________________________

**Go back to the Library’s website. For the remaining questions, refer to the guide, Library Research Help.**

6. List two reasons why you would choose to use a book from the OCCC Library catalog instead of a website or journal article.

   1. __________________________________________
   2. __________________________________________

7. List two reasons why you would choose to use an article as a source instead of a book or website.

   1. __________________________________________
   2. __________________________________________

8. What is Interlibrary Loan?

   __________________________________________

9. After exploring the guide, **Library Research Help**, name two things you found interesting that have not been previously mentioned on this worksheet.

   1. __________________________________________
   2. __________________________________________

10. There are three ways to contact a Librarian for help: in-person, by phone, and by email. What is the OCCC Library’s phone number and email address?

    Phone Number: __________________________________________
    Email: __________________________________________