January 27th, 2016: Library Webinar

Accessing the Library

It is possible to access the library website from three locations: Portal, Library website, and Program Pages. With the exception of Blackboard, I am listing pictures and advantages to logging in at each location. My personal preference is to go directly in from the library website. **Note:** It helps library staff members answer your questions, when you tell them how you access(ed) the library website.

**Portal**

URL – my.atsu.edu > login screen > Departments(left hand side) > Library > Library Website

Advantages:

- You can access multiple departments, the writing center, and adjust your account as needed from this location.

Disadvantages:

- Timing out occurs about every 15 minutes unless you are active on the portal login screen.
- It takes a minimum of two clicks to get wherever you need from this location.

**Library Website**

URL: www.atsu.edu/atsmlib
Advantages:

- All of the library resources are available from this location.
- The library provides links to groups or services, which are useful to students, but are initially tricky to find. Example – The University Writing Center
- Bookmarking this website, regardless of how much you use it, cannot hurt!
- 1 or at most 2 clicks will get you to every resource.
- Site Map provides an alphabetical listing by category of the library resources.

Disadvantages:

- The display (interface) and options are updated more frequently than other pages.
- It can be overwhelming! With all the available options immediately in front of you, where do you start?
- Remembering on what page (resource, database) can be confusing.

Program Pages – Library Website

URL: www.atsu.edu/atsmlib > Program Pages (Left hand side) > Select Program from the List
Advantages:

- Library staff selected programs based upon questions from people, who are currently enrolled or who have completed the program previously.
- This is just another way to access the library resources and going back to the main page or one of the specialized subject pages (Anatomy Resources, Exam Prep/Case Studies) from here or anywhere else on the library website is perfectly acceptable.
- The listed options are not quite as daunting.

Disadvantages:

- If the resource is not listed, a few clicks might be required to access it.

Terminology

Medical Databases, such as PubMed, rely on the Medical Subject Headings (MESH). Knowing the terminology when creating a search strategy and then conducting the search makes everything easier. When results and terminology are not cooperating, frequently looking up the word in the database thesaurus, subject headings, etc will make finding the right articles easier. Frequently, terminology can be gleaned during conversations, from assigned readings, or journal articles discussing the topic. Taking the time to learn and then use the correct terminology will minimize dead ends when searching.

Navigating Databases
All databases have a set design or structure. Variances occur in what shortcut keys can be used, how things are arranged, and in what terminology the database recognizes. Usually, the options to modify a search by year, term, study type, etc are located on the left hand side of the screen. The right side of the screen provides options to export citations, email citations to oneself, or get out of the database entirely. Below are examples of these navigation options in PubMed and Still One Search.

Still One Search Example:

PubMed Example:
Inter Library Loan (ILL)

The library cannot always provide all the articles immediately in full text format. To get these articles, we work with other libraries to pay a small fee and get a PDF copy of the article, which we then email directly to the requesting individual’s inbox. Three key things to remember about Inter Library Loan are:

*Plan for extra time* – unless it is a weekend or holiday, we can usually get articles in 24-48 hours. Sometimes we cannot. Plan to give us a minimum of 48 hours to get articles and 95% of the time, it arrives more quickly.

*Provide Complete Citations* – yes, citations and citation styles are a pain. To help yourself or a colleague get the article most efficiently, provide the Journal Title, Volume, Year, Issue, Pages, Article Title, and Authors for all articles. Citations missing any of these components take a) longer for us to order, while we look to find the missing information, and b) may require additional communication between the library and person requesting the article. Save time and energy for everyone providing complete citations.

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