



MODULE: FINDING RESEARCH ARTICLES

OVERVIEW

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this module, you will be able to:

- Interpretation: Describe different types of research articles, including Experimental Articles, Meta-Analysis Articles, and Review Articles.
- Evaluation: Choose an article to satisfy research needs identified by your mentor.
- Analysis: Compare different types of articles to determine which is appropriate for various needs.
- Analysis: Compare and contrast different types of sources and explain which sources are appropriate in different contexts.
- Evaluation: Evaluate various articles in terms of type, trustworthiness, freshness, and cost. Explain the pros and cons associated with different sources.
- Application: Locate library resources at your school.
- Application: Interview a librarian at your school to determine valuable methods for your research needs.

Checklist

Prior to meeting with mentor

- Review handout about the different kinds of research articles
- Practice methods to locate research articles
- Follow activity to talk with school librarian
- Locate a paper of relevant topic to advisor's research
- Five minute reflection

Discussion with mentor

- University research paper availability
- Cost of research articles – who pays? Considerations when applying to journal.
- Five minute reflection



Mentee Deliverables

1. **Deliverable 1: Bring a printed copy of your answers to these question to the next meeting.**
2. **Deliverable 2: Bring a printed copy of your responses to the Five-Minute Reflection to the next meeting.**

Materials for this Module

- Handout 1: "Types and Sources of Research Articles"
- On-campus library resources, various

Finding Research Articles: Introduction

Being able to find good research articles will be one of the most beneficial things to improving yourself as a researcher. These articles provide all the information that a textbook would, but you are able to search on a much more specific basis. There are a variety of information sources available to you. Review Handout 1 to learn general categories for types of information and the factors you should consider about the source of information, e.g., trustworthiness, cost, or age of material.

Learning to find good articles and knowing the resources that your university has available to you will make your life much easier. The best way to do this is to talk to your librarian. You may not think that your librarian would be much help, but many times they are one of the best resources you can have. They spend much of their time helping students search for articles and finding articles that are difficult to come across. Getting to know your librarian can help you to improve your knowledge of how to search for articles and provide you an excellent resource for when your article searching isn't going as you had planned.

Assignment(s) for this Module

Library Activity

Your job is to locate your school librarians. This can usually be done easily by searching for your university and library. The university library webpage should list the available librarians. It is not uncommon for librarians to be specified to certain majors, so see if you can locate a librarian who works directly with your department – they will be able to help you the most. Once you find out who they are email them to see if they would be willing to meet to discuss research article location and what resources the university has available.

1. Who is the librarian and where are they actually located?
2. Does your department have a specified librarian or are they all general?
3. Along with meeting in-person with a school librarian, please become familiar with the university library website.



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<http://eqpoint.info/rem>

Once you have set up a meeting with them answer the following questions. Note: if you have not gotten an email response from them, assume they did not receive the email. It is never a bad idea to just walk to their office to see if they are free or if you could set up a meeting with them at a better time.

1. What are the best resources/search engines for locating research articles?
2. What key words do you think would help you locate good research articles in your advisor's field?

Deliverable 1: Bring a printed copy of your answers to these question to the next meeting.

Five-Minute Reflection

Come up with one question to discuss with your mentor (maybe a concept you are unclear on, something you found interesting, etc.)

What information did you feel was the most informative? Least?

What method would you use to file research articles once you find them? What are some of the main platforms used?

Deliverable 2: Bring a printed copy of your responses to the Five-Minute Reflection to the next meeting.