

# COMMUNICATION STUDIES

## Essentials of Argumentation

**Get to the databases:** <http://www.csulb.edu/library> (databases by topic)

**Get to the Slides:** <http://www.csulb.edu/~ttravis/classes/communications.htm>

### Terminology

#### Citations

Article Title, Author, Journal Title, Volume Number, Issue Number, Page Number, Date

#### Abstract

Summary of article, tells what the article is about

#### Call Number

Address of book/journal in library

### Before you get to the computer...

1. Start with a Research Topic
2. Identify keywords & synonyms
3. Create search statements using And, Or, W1

**AND** narrows a search.

example: television AND viewing

**OR** broadens a search.

example: viewing OR watching

### Helpful Search Tips

#### Truncation \*

Allows you to include all possible word-endings

e.g. *Female\** looks for *females* or *female*

#### Proximity

**W1** makes your terms appear together as a phrase

example: reality w1 television Ronald w Reagan gang w/s violence

### Useful Resources

#### Newspapers (Pro-Quest)

- Contains the full-text of newspapers and other publications from everywhere!
- Covers the following years 1980-Current date
- Allows you to search by article type (e.g. statistics, editorial, interviews, commentary etc.)
- Allows the use of quotations for searching!

### **CQ Researcher**

Contains the full text of information on many topics that are reflected in today's news  
Each one contains this information about an issue:

- Overview
- Background (history)
- Current situation
- Outlook
- Pro/con
- Chronology
- Next Step (future of the issue)

### **Opposing Viewpoints Database**

Contains essays on both sides of an issue

- Search by keyword if you have multiple terms
- Make sure you check out the dates of sources used- some of them are older than others
- Contains the full text

### **Lexis Nexis Academic**

Contains the full-text of the article

- Be creative with your terms and keywords
- Has tons of information for all aspects of a topic including legal publications, medical and reference
- Ranks by Relevancy

### **Academic Search Complete**

Contains articles on almost any subject

- If you limit your search to "peer reviewed" it will only give you scholarly articles
- Contains the full text of many publications

### **COAST the library catalog**

- Only things we have at CSULB
- Find books, e-books and more!
- Find out if CSULB owns a particular journal title (not article title!!)
- sort results by year (most recent first)
- search for videos, DVDs and audio books

## **Websites**

### **Research Guide: Speech, Argumentation & Debate**

<http://www.csulb.edu/library/subj/commstudies/speeches.html>

### **Opposing Viewpoints**

<http://www.csulb.edu/library/subj/opposing/>

### **Statistics Research Guide**

<http://www.csulb.edu/library/eref/vref/stats.html>

## **Getting the full text of the article**

### **Step ONE**

- Get citations from index
- Author, title, journal title, volume, page number year

### Step TWO

- If you are using a research database click on the SFX link if it is available
- If you are find your article citation in print- search the catalog by [JOURNAL title](#) to see if we own it electronically or in print

### Citing sources

OWL Citations for APA and MLA <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

### How to Get a Library Password

Go to Coast <https://coast.library.csulb.edu/patroninfo>

Type in your name, CSULB I.D. #, and a PIN number of your choice

Confirm PIN by typing it twice more

If you forgot your pin call: 562 985-5512 and get it erased so you can create a new one!

### **STILL Need Help?**

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