

Research & Documentation

WRITING A RESEARCH PAPER

The Writers Handbook: Click the *Research Papers* link on the right for links to *Planning & Writing*, *Paraphrasing*, *Interview Data*, and more.

- <https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/>

Purdue OWL: Click the *Research and Citation* link on the left.

- https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

How to Write a Research Paper Includes links to sample papers and outlines.

- <http://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Research-Paper>

Research in Essays and Reports Scroll down for the steps to take for good research.

- <https://www.thoughtco.com/research-essays-and-reports-1692048> **TOPICS**

100 Best Ideas for Research Paper Topics in 2019. How to choose a topic plus topics by type of paper and subject.

- <https://edusson.com/blog/research-paper-topics>

College Research Paper Topics: 100 Hottest and Brightest Ideas. Grouped by subject.

- <https://overnightessay.com/blog/2012/05/15/college-research-paper-topics-30-hottest-and-brightest-ideas/>

RESEARCH

VU Shake Library

OneVU one click, thousands of results

Scroll down a bit then choose *Everything*, *Articles*, *Books*, or *DVDs*. Enter your search description. Choose where to search (*Jasper Library* returns only items in the Jasper Campus Library). Hit *GO*. With *Advanced Search* (below the main search box), you can select databases to include, choose type of content, limit years of publication and more.

- <https://vinu.edu/web/shake-library/welcome>

Research Starts Here Includes links to finding articles, journals, books, eBooks, media, general and specialized databases, all databases alphabetically, Journals A to Z, tutorials, guides, and more.

Some of the direct links are:

Research Guides Advice for searching specific areas such as the Humanities or Social Science.

- <https://my.vinu.edu/web/shake-library/library-guides>

Library Tutorials Videos on how to use the library resources and the databases.

- <https://my.vinu.edu/web/shake-library/library-tutorials>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheShakeLibrary>

Library Tutorials Video tutorial about using the Library and the databases.

Here are some especially useful ones:

How to Search OneVU

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oMuMOLGaUzM>

Research, Shake Library, Tutorials, *continued*

WorldCat (OneVU) Learn how to create lists and citations in OneVU.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vos5ivBeZ5c&list=PLY5khsgl_Z4kNlaywiychH9E2Sg-3lIkW

Evaluating Resources

- <https://my.vinu.edu/documents/2751533/38268923/Evaluating+Resources.pdf/a84ad0eb-d606-8a38ca01-c0f34a3bc30e>

Quick Tips & Shortcuts for Database Searching

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aWqdf9L4D24>

Opposing Viewpoints In Context (Gale) how to use Gale's *Opposing Viewpoints in Context* database.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OuFaoKdTKOE&list=PLY5khsgl_Z4l8PKKWwRAx2EfuQ32oPn_P

Using iPad Apps

- <http://youtu.be/eUTnJqRMSnk>

Library Guides & Sources includes *Writing & Library Help*, *Database Guides & Tutorials*, and research guides for each area of study.

- <https://www.vinu.edu/web/shake-library/library-guides>

Other sources

Search Better Tips and tricks for better online searching.

- <http://www.gcflearnfree.org/searchbetter/>

WolframAlpha Knowledge Based Search Engine Search for any topic. Available for IOS and Android

- <https://www.wolframalpha.com/>

For a few dollars, you can get Mobile Apps for IOS and Android including Course Assistant, Reference, and Professional Assistant.

- http://products.wolframalpha.com/mobile/?_ga=2.86155544.1225773569.15181092961800411722.1517510444

The National Academies Press “created by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, this site offers “more than 5,000 titles in PDF format. These PDFs can be downloaded for free by the chapter or the entire book.” Search by topic, subtopic, book title, or ISBN.

- <https://www.nap.edu/>

The Encyclopedia of Life (EOL) is a free online resource bringing together information about all life on Earth including text, images, video, sounds, maps, classifications and more. Use the search or go to the bottom of the page and use one of the links to one of the forms of life - animals, bacteria, plants, fishes, mold, etc.

- <https://eol.org/>

Citing details for each type of content is available here:

- <https://eol.org/docs/what-is-eol/terms-of-use/citing-eol-and-eol-content>

DOCUMENTATION

Citation: A (Very) Brief Introduction YouTube on why and how to document with links to other writing resources from the North Carolina State University Libraries

- <https://lib.ncsu.edu/tutorials/citation/>

Styles of Documentation

MLA and APA are the two main documentation styles used for college papers. The Humanities use MLA. The Sciences use APA. Occasionally, a science class may call for AMA style.

Purdue OWL Citation Chart Comparison of MLA, APA, and Chicago styles of citation. Includes examples for books, online articles, YouTube/Podcast, Blog, and more for both in-text and reference list citations.

- https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/using_research/documents/20180719CitationChart.pdf

MLA

The MLA Style Center This is the official site for MLA format.

- <https://style.mla.org/>

MLA Documentation 8TH Edition, 2016 Basic of MLA citation including links for how to create hanging indents in MS Word, Google Docs (PDF), and Pages as well as Practice Templates for citations from various sources.

- <http://library.austincc.edu/help/MLA/>

MLA Style (8th edition): Examples Scroll down to *MLA (8th ed.) Style Guides* and choose *Examples* or *Core Elements*.

- <https://www.harford.edu/academics/library/help/tutorials.aspx>

A Complete Guide to MLA 8th Edition This detailed handbook to MLA 8 citations is available as a PDF.

- <http://www.easybib.com/guides/citation>

Sample Papers in MLA Style Three papers show samples of MLA style in general and in details such as block quotes, citations from diverse sources, and illustrations.

- <https://style.mla.org/sample>

MLA Works Cited: Electronic Sources (Web Publications) Basic style for citing webpages, online, databases, and other electronic sources.

- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/>

MLA Style PowerPoint Presentations How to cite sources used in a presentation.

- <http://libraryguides.bennett.edu/home/library-tutorials/mla-style-powerpoint-presentations>

APA

APA Style Guide The official site for APA style. Scroll down for Quick Answers to references and formatting.

- <http://www.apastyle.org/>

APA Formatting and Style Guide General formatting information and link to a sample paper.

- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Documentation, APA, *continued*

APA Style Guides Scroll down to APA Style Guides for citation help for databases, in-text, print or websites.

- <https://www.harford.edu/academics/library/help/tutorials.aspx>

Basics of APA Tutorial Presented by APA.org, select the any one of the short sections to quickly jump to just the information you need.

- https://apastyle.apa.org/learn/tutorials/basics-tutorial?_ga=2.201706577.1128017579.1568216688-394421405.1568216688

APA Style for PowerPoint Presentations How to APA cite information in a PowerPoint presentation

- <http://libraryguides.bennett.edu/home/library-tutorials/apa-style-presentations>

APA Reference List Examples PDF with samples of Reference and in-line citations.

- http://library.flcc.edu/APA_FLCC.pdf

APA Formatting and Style Guide PowerPoint covering the complete details of APA style.

- https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

AMA – American Medical Association **AMA**

Formatting – Quick Guide

- <http://www.liberty.edu/academics/graduate/writing/?PID=27291>

General Rules from the 10th Edition

- Reference page: https://guides.lib.jmu.edu/ld.php?content_id=42654163
- Citing in text: https://guides.lib.jmu.edu/ld.php?content_id=42654151

Citation Creation Sites

Always double check the citations these sites create. They are not always completely correct, and it is your responsibility to get it right.

KnightCite *from the Hekman Library at Calvin College* Choose your citation style, type of source, fill in as much information as you have, then hit submit to create the citation.

- <https://calvin.edu/library/knightcite/>

Easy Bib Free version only uses MLA style. It allows unlimited citations but only makes 20 suggestions to improve your paper.

- <http://www.easybib.com/>

Citation Machine Free version allow you to choose your style and make unlimited citations but only offers 20 suggestions to improve your paper.

- <http://www.citationmachine.net/>