From Problems to Sources - Overview

- How do you classify of sources
- What are the implications?
- What about Internet sources (e.g., Wikipedia)
- Screening Sources for Reliability
  - Reputable publisher
  - Impact of peer review
  - Reputable author
  - Source is current
- Locating Printed and Recorded Sources
  - Librarians
  - General reference works
- Specialized reference works
- Research guides
- Library catalog (and databases)
- Stacks
- Online databases
  - Finding Sources on the Internet
- What are the types of Internet Sources?
- Internet Sources
  - Gathering Data Directly from People
  - Bibliographical Trails

3 Kinds of Sources

Preliminaries:

- What are these kinds of sources for your own research?
- What is the classification of sources do you get on the Internet?

Primary Sources
Secondary Sources
Tertiary Sources
Screening Sources for Reliability

Preliminaries:
- When are each of the following relevant to your research?
- What sources that fall into these reliability categories are important for your research?
- Reputable publisher
- Impact of peer review
- Reputable author
- Source is current

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Screening Sources for Relevance

Book:
- Skim index for your keywords, then skim pages containing them
- Skim first & last paragraphs of chapters that contain your keywords
- Skim prologues, introductions, summary chapters etc.
- Skim the last chapter (first and last few pages)
- Skim editor’s introduction (for paper collections)
- Check bibliography for other relevant sources

Articles:
- Read the abstract
- Skim introduction, conclusion, findings, discussion etc.
- Skim section headings and first & last paragraphs
- Check bibliography for other relevant sources

Online source:
- Articles --- treat as articles
- Look for site maps etc
- Use your keywords in a site search

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Locating Printed and Recorded Source

Preliminaries:
- When would each of these be useful methods for your research?
- Give examples that may help you
- Librarians
- General reference works
- Specialized reference works
- Research guides
- Library catalog (and databases)
- Stacks
- Online databases
- What are the new/modern Internet-based methods?

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Finding Sources on the Internet

- What are the types of Internet Sources (not Internet methods of finding sources)?
- What is the place of 'open access' journals?
- What is the place of governmental documents, civic websites, business reports etc.
- What are some of the ways Internet sources may supplement printed articles (e.g. YouTube videos)
- When might Internet sources be cited because they are the only current source?
- What sources are available only on the Internet
- When is an Internet source a primary source

Gathering Data Directly from People

- When might you use expert sources?
- When might you use people as primary sources?

Bibliographical Trails

- How do you follow bibliographic trails?
- Is there a way to follow trails 'forward', if so how?
- What are some of the pitfalls of following bibliographic trails?