

Intro to Library Research at Pamlico Community College

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Welcome PCC students! This guide will provide a brief introduction to library research. The library provides a wealth of resources that can assist you in your coursework. Using these information tools will give you credible and reliable sources of information. Our resources will comply with your instructor assignments requiring academic and scholarly sources. Using Google or Wikipedia may not always provide you with the type of sources that instructors require.

1. Begin your search by familiarizing yourself with the library website:
<https://pamlicocc.libguides.com/library>
2. On the library webpage you can find guides to help you avoid plagiarism as well as tools that can help you create citations in the MLA or APA format as your assignments may require.
<https://pamlicocc.libguides.com/c.php?g=822382&p=6582936>
3. At the link above also click on the link for [Evaluating Sources for Credibility](#) in the Research Tips section. That short video will help you distinguish the quality of your source information.
4. On the library website you will also find a link to NCLive where you can find articles, e books, audiobooks, videos and many other resources for your research. <https://www.nclive.org/>

(remote login for NCLive is available with either your Moodle account or Library card #, contact the library if you have problems logging in).

Researching the pro and cons of a controversial issue:

If your instructor assigns you to research a topic that is currently hotly debated in our society one of the best resources available to you in NCLive is [ProQuest SIRS Issue Researcher](#).

For example, if you wanted to investigate the debate over raising the minimum wage then SIRS Issue Researcher will provide a series of articles defending both sides of this debate. You will also see a series of critical questions to ask yourself as you conduct your study.

Be sure to download the Research Guide for Critical Thinker as this document will walk you through the entire process as you compile your data and then construct your paper.

Finding scholarly articles, e books, or videos:

NCLive makes it easy to narrow your search to include only scholarly, academic articles on a given topic. From the [NCLive](#) main page click the Articles icon. Type your search term in the Search NC Live Articles box. Next limit your results to include only: scholarly and peer reviewed materials and full text online.

E Books are also available on NCLive. Just select the E Book icon on the NCLive main page and on the next screen type your search term in the Search NCLive E Books box.

Videos may sometimes be useful in your research as well. By clicking on the video icon at the NCLive main page you can search for available videos as well.

Conclusion:

This has been a quick and basic introduction to library research resources. There are many more that you can explore depending on your needs and topics of interest. Nearly all of our databases include help screens and tutorials and you can always contact the library if you need further assistance with locating resources.