

## **COMM 1600 – Introduction to Popular Culture**

**Course Description- COMM 1600 – Introduction to Popular Culture (3 cr.).** Introduction to the basic theories and approaches to the study of popular culture, including the various media, literature, music, folklore, culture, society, and everyday life.

**Scenario:** Students are to locate information from books and periodicals for their research paper. Students will use AUSTIN online catalog, NetLibrary and the Popular Culture databases to find appropriate sources. Students also learn where to find information on how to write a research paper in MLA style and how to use the different Cite soft wares in selected data bases. Students write down their approved research topic and the accompanying theses statement on the exercise handout before coming to class.

The librarian uses the 2 page research guide as the exercise in class which covers concepts for searching data bases, searching for periodical articles and how to use the cite software specific to the data base.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES** (a=audience, b=behavior, c=condition, d=degree of accomplishment)

Following participation in an instruction session covering use of **AUSTIN, NetLibrary** and **Popular Culture** databases (c), students (a) will **show** their ability to **select** sources available electronically or locally (d) in order to **show** that they are able to **locate** sources identified through these databases (b).

By identifying 3-5 keywords from the title and theses statements for the search strategy and **by limiting** the search to document type in the exercise completed (d) immediately after the instruction session (c), students (a) will **demonstrate** that they know how to identify keywords and limit their search results in order to narrow their searches further (b).

By correctly **citing** book and periodical resources (d) following an instruction session covering use of databases (c), students (a) will **show** they are able to **differentiate** between the types of sources found in the **different** databases (b) and use the MLA style (c).

Students (a) will apply their understanding of the appropriate style format for books, magazine and journal articles from a database (b) following participation in a research session covering use of the MLA writing style (c).

**ASSESSMENT:** Finished Works Cited page

- A     audience     students
- B     behavior     1) select data bases from a subject resource list (communications)
- 2) use selected keywords from presentation title and theses statement to create a search strategy
- 3) apply BOOLEAN operators and truncation
- 4) evaluate resources for suitable use
- 5) keep an active word document at the bottom of the screen and paste bibliographic references onto the word document using the data base specific cite software
- 6) format the bibliographic citations into a References page
- 7) turn in to course instructor for credit

C     condition     instruction session

D     degree of accomplishment

Identify 3-5 keywords

use BOOLEAN operators 3/5 times

use truncation\* 3/5 times

cite references correctly 4/5 times

**Assessment**

- Complete the instructional research guide (exercise hand-out) and turn in
- Create 2-3 search statements using BOOLEAN operators
- Create the Works Cited bibliography

**GOALS**

- Identify keywords
- Use subject suitable databases

- Use BOOLEAN operators
- Complete and hand in a Works Cited references page

(I CAN MEASURE THESE GOALS BY THE FOLLOWING FOUR STATEMENTS)