ETLA 100: TRANSITIONS I:
Banned Books: Controversy and Censorship

Getting Started in the Library

As you begin your research for your essays in this class, you will need to go to the library web page. Background information or a general overview will be useful—what was happening in the world when the book was written, the author’s mindset, etc. The print and online titles listed below have good articles/essays on many different aspects of censorship. The print items are located in call number order in the reference section of Kelly Library, and the online reference databases can be accessed from the A–Z list or by the links built into this guide, if you are viewing it online via Moodle or the Guides link on the library page. Of course, if at any point you need assistance locating or using any of the resources mentioned in this guide, please speak with a librarian!

Encyclopedia of Philosophy REF B 51 .E53 2006 online in Gale Virtual Reference Library
Encyclopedia of Sociology REF HM 425 .E5 2000 online in Gale Virtual Reference Library
Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender REF HQ 16 .E52 2007 online in Gale Virtual Reference Library
Encyclopedia of Civil Liberties in America REF JC 599 .U5 2005
West’s Encyclopedia of American Law REF KF 154 .W47 2005 online in Gale Virtual Reference Library
Great American Court Cases REF KF 385 A4 G68 1999
Encyclopedia of the American Constitution REF KF 4548 .E53 2000 online in Credo
New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians REF ML 100 .N48 2001 online in Oxford Music Online
Oxford Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature REF PN 1008.5 .O94 2006
Dictionary of Art REF N 31 .D5 1996 online in Oxford Art Online
Encyclopedia of Censorship REF Z 657 .G73 2005
Intellectual Freedom Manual REF Z 711.4 .I57 2010

This is just the beginning. Now let’s look for more in-depth information by using Kelly Library’s discovery service (E&H OneSearch), individual databases, and the catalog.

Finding Information in the (Almost) Whole Library Collection

An easy way to search most of the library’s resources in that are actually in the building, or full-text in its databases in one fell swoop, is through E&H OneSearch. Take a look at the following example--- a search on Morrison AND “Bluest Eye” AND (censor* OR challenge* OR ban* OR controversies”) and limited to
available in Kelly Library, academic journals and magazines.

Notice the checkbox limiting the search results of 1800+ items to “Available in Library Collection.” This search includes everything on the A – Z List except the databases on the right side of the screen shot. This is an easy way to make a first pass in your research, and find a substantial number of full-text items.

Unchecking the “available in Kelly Library” box raises the number to over 2000 results.

Can I Look at Individual Databases?

Overwhelmed? You may prefer to look at some of these databases individually. Let’s look at the catalog and a few databases.

Catalog

Emory & Henry College belongs to a group, or a consortium, of four libraries called Holston Associated Libraries, and they share a common catalog. Sometimes you will hear library staff members refer to the catalog as HAL. All types of items are in our catalog; besides books, there are DVDs, CDs, streaming video, maps, electronic books, and other electronic resources. You can request items held by the other HAL libraries through the catalog, and have them sent to Kelly Library for pick up. You can search for material in several different ways: by subject, author, title, or keyword. The following screenshot is from a subject search on censorship:
What Are These Strange Letters and Numbers?

After you have found books and other material in the catalog, how do you find these things in the library? The call numbers don’t look like what you are used to in your school learning resource center or local public library. That’s because Kelly Library uses the Library of Congress classification system, and your school or public library probably used the Dewey Decimal system. Both classification schemes do the same thing: group library materials together by subject. To help make things clearer, take a look at this tutorial from the University of Rhode Island to help you decipher Library of Congress call numbers. Please do not attempt to contact URI library staff. If you are having a tough time finding items on the shelves, do not hesitate to ask any Kelly Library circulation staff member or reference librarian for help.

In general, most of the circulating items on are on the top floor of the library. The reference collection, periodicals, newspapers, DVDs, CDs, and new books are on the main floor. The ground floor houses the IT Help Desk, an open computer lab (Kelly Lab), the McGowan Lab, maps, microfilm and a government documents collection. The top floor contains most of the circulating collection and special collections. Please feel free to ask any library or IT staff member for directions or help.
Databases

You may wish to search most of the library’s online resources at one time through *E&H OneSearch*, or you may prefer to look at some of them separately. Following are some good databases for the subject matter of this class, if you would like to search them individually. The example in the screen shot from *Academic Search Complete* below uses the same search as *E&H OneSearch* above: *Morrison AND “Bluest Eye” AND (censor* OR challenge* OR ban* OR controvers*)*.

Some other databases that would be helpful in addition to *E&H OneSearch* and *Academic Search Complete* are *Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts*, *Modern Language Association International Bibliography*, and *JSTOR*. Note that *E&H OneSearch*, *Academic Search Complete*, LIS&TA and MLA Bibliography have the same user interface.

Let’s look at an example from the *JSTOR* database. The search is on *censorship AND (political OR government OR military) AND “Vietnam War” AND “Pentagon Papers.”*. The search is limited to *Content I can access*, *articles* and *books*, *English* language, and the *subject areas* of communication studies, history, and political science. It produced a list of 77 items—35 journal articles and 46 books.
What Do You Do If an Article Is Not Full-Text in a Database?

If you’re looking, for example, in Academic Search Complete, and you find an article that is not full-text, what do you do? Go to our Journals by Title list! An article citation that may not be full-text in one database may very well be full-text in another one of the library’s dozens of databases. For example, in the Academic Search Complete query, there is a citation for an article, “On Incendiary Art, the Moral Imagination, and Toni Morrison” in the Summer 2006 issue of Modern Fiction Studies; it’s not full-text in ASC. Does Kelly Library have access to it somewhere else? Yes, it’s full-text in another database called Project Muse. Follow the links to access the article.

What Does “SCHOLARLY” Versus “POPULAR” Mean?

Throughout your college career, you will hear professors and librarians mention popular magazines and scholarly journals. Or, your professors may tell you to rely on scholarly, not popular sources. What does that mean? Generally, articles in popular magazines, such as Time, Sports Illustrated, Glamour, Psychology Today, etc. are geared toward a large, diverse audience. Scholarly journals, such as the American Historical Review, American Journal of Psychology, Mind, International Journal of Ethics, etc. are aimed at scholars and students in specialized fields. People is a magazine about celebrities and popular culture; the Journal of
Popular Culture studies and analyzes it. Here is a helpful chart on the Skidmore College’s Library website that will help you distinguish the differences between the two types of publications.

Documentation and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is serious academic misconduct. The E&H Academic Code clearly states that it is a student’s responsibility to give credit to another person’s exact words or unique ideas. The Honor Code reinforces this concept with the statement that one of its elements is “A commitment to abstain from all forms of cheating and plagiarism.” Documenting sources correctly will help you avoid this mistake in your papers and presentations. In high school, you may have already had some experience with the Turabian style of documentation. Your professors will talk to you more in-depth about this issue. Three other common styles you may hear your professors mention are MLA (Modern Language Association), APA (American Psychological Association) and the Chicago Manual of Style. The library has guides for all of them. Also, on the library’s Research Tips page, there are links to several helpful sites. The Long Island University and the OWL (Online Writing Lab at Purdue University) websites are especially helpful.

Your Best Resource

Your best resource in the library is the people who work here! If you are having problems locating or using any of these resources, please ask a library staff member for assistance. We’re here to help you with your information needs. Kelly Library is open 90+ hours a week during the regular semester, and reference librarians are available 8am – 7pm Monday – Thursday and 8am-5pm Friday.

Librarians: Jane Caldwell, Jody Hanshew, Janet Kirby, and Ruth Castillo
Circulation Staff: Adam Alley, Cindy Goodson, Christine Mitten, and Melissa Phelps.

Another valuable resource available to you on this campus is the E&H Writing Center in McGlothlin-Street 233. The tutors there can work with you to improve your papers by giving you advice on grammar, organization and documentation matters; it is not an editing service. For information on operating hours and tutor schedules, call ext. 6723 or check the Writing Center webpage. Note: in the Fall 2018 semester, Kelly Library is hosting a WC tutor on the main floor. Also, you may want to consult with Academic Support Services in the Powell Resource Center at ext. 6144.

One more resource that will help you with your research: Diana Hacker’s grammar and composition book A Writer’s Reference. It contains an excellent section on doing research—how to set realistic deadlines, form a topic and refine it, etc. as well as giving you some practical tips.

Remember: We’re here to help you with your information needs. Please don’t hesitate to ask us for help. You can reach us by: phone (ext. 6208), email (askalibrarian@ehc.edu, visit us in person, or by appointment (https://www.ehc.edu/library/about/our-staff/ [click on Ruth, Jane, Janet or Jody]).