GETTING STARTED IN THE LIBRARY

So you have an assignment in this class to find information related to the subject of pseudoscience. How do you get started?

First of all, you will need to go to the library web page. Second, unless you are already an expert on this topic, some background information, or a general overview might be useful. The print titles listed below (in call number order), all located in the reference section of Kelly Library, and the three online reference databases, located on the Journal Articles and Databases page, have good articles on pseudoscience and related topics. They are examples of specialized encyclopedias—they focus on a particular subject as compared to general encyclopedias, such as Americana or World Book. Try doing a search on “pseudoscience” (or the topic of your choice) in these titles or databases. If you are viewing this library guide through the Guides link on the library website, or your professor’s Moodle site, you can go directly to the online sites by clicking on the hyperlinks. 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!

Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology and Behavioral Science REF BF 31 .E52 2001 vols 1-4

Also available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

Encyclopedia of Philosophy REF B 51 .E5 2006 vols 1-10. Also available through GVRL


Dictionary of Mysticism and the Occult REF BF 1407 .D78 1985


Encyclopedia of the Unexplained REF BF 1411 .C32 1975


Dictionary of Superstitions REF BF 1775 .D53 1989

Introduction to New & Alternative Religions in America: New Age & Neopagan Movements REF BL 2525 .I58


Encyclopedia of Urban Legends REF GR 105.34 .B78 2012 vols 1-2


Encyclopedia of the Scientific Revolution from Copernicus to Newton REF Q 125 .E53 2000

Pseudoscience: A Critical Encyclopedia REF Q 172.5 .P72 1944 2009

The Skeptic Encyclopedia of Pseudoscience REF Q 172.5 .P77 S54 2002 vols 1-2


Salem Health: Complementary and Alternative Health Care REF R 733 .C66 2012 vols 1-4

Also available online in Salem Health
FINDING MATERIAL WITH THE CATALOG

After you have found some general information, you might want longer, more detailed information. One great place to look is in the online 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, videocassettes, audiocassettes, maps, electronic books, and other electronic resources. You can search for material in several different ways: by subject, title, author and keyword. The screenshot below is from a subject search on phrenology. When you scroll down, you will see the heading Phrenology. Click on it, and you will see the title Psychology’s Occult Doubles: Psychology and the Problem of Pseudo Science. When you click on that, you’ll see information about the book, where to find it, etc.

These sample searches are very basic; there are many ways you can limit or tailor your search. We won’t go deeply into that now, but the library staff wants you to be aware of the catalog and that it has the
holdings of all material formats of its member libraries. The most important thing to remember is to ask for help!

WHAT DO THESE STRANGE LETTERS AND NUMBERS MEAN?

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 (you need to look at just the first three screens). Also, if you are having a tough time finding items on the shelves, do not hesitate to ask any 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 (a classroom) 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.

FINDING ARTICLES IN DATABASES

Besides books, you will want articles. Articles generally fall into two groups: popular magazines and scholarly periodicals. You have online access to both kinds of articles through the many databases this library subscribes to. Take a look at the Journal Articles and Databases list. There are dozens of databases, and most of them are partially or completely full-text. You may already be familiar with Expanded Academic or ProQuest; one similar database in this library that covers a wide range of subjects in both magazines and journals are Academic Search Complete. Look at the screen shot below from Academic Search Complete with the search terms of astrology and pseudoscience. The search produced 20+ results. If the citation indicates PDF or HTML full-text, the article is there, ready for you to read or print.

As you can see on the Journal Articles and Databases list, there are many specialized databases too. For students in upper-division science classes seeking scholarly information, the following databases may
be of interest: *PsycArticles, PsycInfo, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, Environment Complete, Health Source: Nursing / Academic Edition, JSTOR, MEDLINE, and SciFinder Scholar, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, Environment Complete, and Health Source* are produced by the same vendor that publishes *Academic Search Complete*, so the user interfaces are very similar.

Although newspapers may not be considered scholarly sources, they can be helpful in giving you information as the event was, or is, unfolding; tracing a story through the newspaper can give you a day-by-day breakdown of it. With a newspaper database such as *America’s Newspapers*, it’s easy. Below is a sample search on the *pseudoscience AND vaccines* in *America’s Newspapers*.

![Image of newspaper search results]

**WHAT DOES “SCHOLARLY” VERSUS “POPULAR” MEAN?**

Throughout your college career, you will hear professors and librarians mention popular magazines and scholarly journals. Your instructors 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.

**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 Full Text E-Journals 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. Let’s use the example of American Biology Teacher from above. It wasn’t full-text in ASC, but it is in *BioOne.*

**BE A BETA TESTER…**

…of our new discovery search engine, *E&H OneSearch.* It searches most of the library’s databases simultaneously, except for the ones you see below on the right side of the screen shot. Let us know how you like this service.
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. Note: be aware that the Modern Language Association (MLA) documentation style was revised this year (2016). Kelly Library has guides on permanent reserve (ask at the Circulation Desk) with these new changes.

FINDING GOOD INTERNET SITES

There are lots of good web pages, and some that are not so good. In high school, your teachers and media specialists have probably given you some advice on telling the good from the bad. Widener University’s Wolfram Library has a good YouTube tutorial on evaluating web sites.

In addition to pages you find on your own with your favorite search engines, the librarians in Kelly Library have pulled together high-quality web sites, subscription databases and print resources by subject. Take a look at the areas; you may see a resource you can use. Click to see what we have listed for the sciences.

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 70 hours a week during the regular semester, and a reference librarian is available until Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm.

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<th>Circulation Staff</th>
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<td>Adam Alley</td>
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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. 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 and Nancy Sommers’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. It also includes the 2016 updated MLA documentation style.

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:
• calling the Circulation Desk at ext. 6208
• emailing askalibrarian@ehc.edu
• visiting the library in person