



Madigan Library

SPC101 – Fundamentals of Speech

Instructor: Mike Round

Librarian: Pat Scott

[Library catalog](#) (books)

[ProQuest](#) (articles)

[Google](#) (reliable websites)

[Lexis-Nexis](#) (newspaper articles). Note: the Sun Gazette is not included in Lexis-Nexis.

A. If you have a general topic, you must

1. Select an aspect of the topic on which to focus. For example:

Green technology - Which technology?

Upgrading a hospital – Define “upgrading.”

Alternative energy sources - For homes? For automobiles?

Amish culture – Culture includes religion, customs, education, food, etc.

Top 6 bad habits (U.S. adults) -

Comparison of ski resorts – Which resorts?

Providing medical services in war zones – Historical wars or current wars?

Improving mass transportation – In which city?

2. Select keywords to search

3. Begin by using [Library catalog](#), [ProQuest](#) & [Google](#) to find information.

Tips for Google searches:

Bind phrases with “ ”

“presidential election”

Use + to force inclusion of a word

“presidential election” +2008

B. If you have a topic that deals with a local issue, such as

PCT athletics upgrade to NCAA Division III
Adding a new building to the Earth Sciences Center
Building a parking garage for PCT
Building a 24/7 eatery & pool hall in Williamsport

It will be more difficult to find information. You can search for info on the general topic, and then use that information to build a case for Penn College or Williamsport.

Use [ProQuest](#), [Lexis-Nexis](#) & [Google](#) to find information.

Need help? Contact Pat Scott: pscott@pct.edu, 320-2400, x7840