Library Research Skills

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Learning Objectives:

- Sources of Information (*Part 1*)
- Avoiding Plagiarism (*Part 2*)
- Library Resources (*Part 3*)
Part 1

Sources of Information
What is a **Source of Information**?
2 Types of Sources of Information

- Primary Sources

- Secondary Sources
Primary Sources

Sources that present **original research**.

Examples:

• Research article published in a journal
• Conference proceedings
• Lab notebooks
• Technical Reports
• Theses/ Dissertation
• Patents
Secondary Sources are written about primary sources. They analyze, interpret, and discuss information from the primary sources.

Examples:

- Encyclopedias
- Dictionaries
- Newspaper articles
- Handbooks
- Reviews
Scholarly Publications

VS

Peer Reviewed (refereed) Publications
Scholarly Publications

• Written by experts
• Academic focus
• Reports original research (experimentation)
• Research methodology or theory
• Detailed analysis

Examples: *Books & Journal Articles*
Peer Reviewed (Refereed) Publications

• Scholarly publications that go through a rigorous assessment process by other experts in the same subject area.

Example: *Journal articles*
Part 2

Avoiding Plagiarism

Using APA Style
What is plagiarism?
2 Types of Plagiarism

1) Deliberate Plagiarism

2) Unintentional Plagiarism
Deliberate Plagiarism

• Copying or buying a paper

• Recycling a document from another course

• Using information without citing the source
Unintentional Plagiarism

• Paraphrasing very close to the original document (Patchwriting)

• Copying and pasting online sources and forgetting to cite the source
You don’t have to cite:

“Common Knowledge”
Common Knowledge

• Information generally known to an educated reader, such as “Widely Known”:
  - Facts
  - Dates
  - Ideas
  - Language

• Found in several sources without being cited
What do you have to cite?
Direct Quotations

• According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

• She stated, "Students often had difficulty using APA style" (Jones, 1998, p. 199), but she did not offer an explanation as to why.
Jones's (1998) study found the following: Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time citing sources. This difficulty could be attributed to the fact that many students failed to purchase a style manual or to ask their teacher for help (p. 199).

**** Longer than 40 words****
• According to Jones (1998), APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners.

• APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners (Jones, 1998, p. 199).
For more information please consult the APA Style Guide.

http://lib.unb.ca/instruction/scroos/APACitationStyle.pdf

http://unb.worldcat.org.proxy.hil.unb.ca/oclc/317697841
Library Resources (Part 3)

Let’s look at some library resources

www.lib.unb.ca