HOW TO BEGIN RESEARCH

- Compile a list of subject key words. You will use them when researching.
- Think of synonyms (words that mean the same thing).
- Check the spelling. Searching in the library catalog or databases won’t correct your spelling.
- Start small. Find between 5-10 resources that match your subject. Analyze these sources for your paper before gathering more.
- Create a rough outline. Based on the information you have already collected, write down a summary of what you want to cover in your paper.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR INFORMATION

When should I use books?
- For in-depth overviews or historical background on a subject.
- Look for books using the Catalog on the Library website.

When should I use a database?
- For scholarly research articles that give specific case data or recent developments in an area.
- Access databases from the Useful Links bar in the Catalog.

When should I use the Web?
- For demographic statistics or VERY current information that has not yet been published academically.

WORKFORCE DIVISION

Research at:

Medicine Spring Library
338-5441 x2701
http://library.bfcc.edu

Blackfeet Community College
517 SE Boundary St.
PO Box 819
Browning, MT 59417

by: Lisa Kellerman

WRITING HELP

Sentence Basics: diction, usage, and mechanics
LB 1964 .S6 1994

The Student Writer: editor and critic
PE 1408 .C537 2010

A Troubleshooting Guide for Writers: strategies and process
PE 1408 .C5378 2010

The McGraw Hill Handbook
PE 1408 ..M3365 2010

Text and Thought: an integrated approach to college reading and writing
PE 1413 .R38 2000

Purdue Online Writing Lab
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
Books

The following are Library of Congress sections for possible Liberal Arts research topics

Q  Science
R  Medicine
S  Agriculture
T  Technology
  TA  Civil Engineering
  TC  Hydraulic Engineering
  TD  Environmental Technology
  TE  Highway Engineering
  TF  Railroad Engineering
  TG  Bridge Engineering
  TH  Building Construction
  TJ  Mechanical Engineering
  TK  Electrical Engineering

Databases

**EBSCO Host**
- Provides online access to several Liberal Arts research publications.
  - GreenFILE
  - Academic Search Elite
  - Auto Repair Reference Center

**Credo Reference**
- Encyclopedic entries on any subject. A good place to start basic research.

Print Journals

**American Forests**
SD 1 .A55

**Field & Stream**
SK 1 .F44

**Montana Outdoors**
SK 417 .M75

**National Parks Magazine**
S 964.66 .N35

**Outdoor Life**
SK 1 .O7

**Scientific American**
T 1 .S5

**State of Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology**
TD 224 .M9 M55

**Western Horseman**
SF 244 .W52

Websites

**Solar Energy**
- Energy.gov
  http://energy.gov/science-innovation/energy-sources/renewable-energy/solar
- American Solar Energy Society (AMES)
  http://www.ases.org/
- U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)
  http://www.eia.gov/

**Electrical Technology**
- Electrical Technology
  http://electricaltechnology.org/
- Montana State Electrical Board

**Construction/Building Trades**
- U.S. Department of Labor
  https://www.osha.gov/doc/
- National Association of Women in Construction
  http://www.nawic.org/nawic/default.asp
- Blackfeet Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance and Safety Enforcement Act 2010
  http://www.nawic.org/nawic/default.asp

Interlibrary Loan

If there is a book that you need for your research please see the library staff to help you get an interlibrary loan.

To help staff out please find the item you are looking for in http://www.worldcat.org before asking.