



Additional Library Resources

Resources are available to enhance classroom instruction and meet the information needs of students, faculty, staff, and administrators. A large number of resources are available on and off-campus at either the MLK library or the branch library at the Southwest Campus.

Anatomical Models - 3-D models, charts, and flash cards are available for visual and tactical study of human anatomy and physiology.

Black Collection - A circulating collection of books by or about African Americans. Shelves adjacent to the other circulating collection (Stacks).

Current Magazines and Periodicals - Magazines, journals, and newspapers are available for leisurely and academic pursuits in the library. A comfortable, quiet seating area is available on the first floor of the library. Many of these resources are available in on-line format through the electronic databases.

Distance Learning - Kelli Wilder is the St. Philip's College librarian assigned to aid our Distance Learning Students and Faculty. Kelli can be reached at 210-486-2197, or through email at kwilder6@alamo.edu. Please feel free to contact Kelli if you are having difficulty accessing or using the library resources.

DVD/Streaming Films on Demand and E-book Collections - Online resources in support of classroom learning and some popular movies in DVD format are available.

Discovery service - begin your research with one search to access physical and digital resources on your topic.

iPads - SPC students only. Four-hour loan period of iPad in library only.

LibGuides - Research assistance, subject guides, and useful resources compiled by your friendly librarians.

Music CD's - A wide selection of music compact discs are available for one-week checkout. Music from all categories and eras is included.

Online Databases - Use the online databases to find articles from reference books, popular magazines, scholarly journals, government documents, pamphlets and a wide variety of sources in digital form.

Search Strategy Process:

1. Choose a database from the [Online Databases](#) list.
2. Use keywords(s) to lead to a useful record. What words do you expect to find in an article on your topic? For example, if you are looking for obituaries, you would expect to find the words "lived", "survived by" and a person's family name. The term obituary would not be expected to be found in an actual obituary.



3. **Are you satisfied with the number of citations(hits) your search retrieved?**
 - a. If too many hits occur, use limiters such as date ranges to retrieve fewer citations. Or, use "and" between terms, instructing the search engine to return hits with both terms included.
 - b. If too few hits occur, use "or" between search terms and no limiters to instruct the search engine to broaden the scope to include either term in the results.
4. **Evaluate citations:**
 - a. Choose to sort the citation or results list to make it most useful to you. Usual choices are between sorting by relevance or by publication date. Relevancy is based on either where in the article the search term is found or how often it is used in the article. Usually search terms in the title of an article are considered to be more relevant than search terms found in the body of the text. Determine if the currency of the article is important to you. If so, sort results according to the most current date of publication.
 - b. Are words in the title or abstract(summary) fields important to your needs?
 - c. Is the source of an article known to you from your research?
 - d. Is the author of an article a known expert in your subject area?
5. Re-do the search using descriptors or controlled vocabulary terms that are found in the records retrieved by your search.

Note: *Through this process, you can expect to receive a listing of records highly relevant to your needs.*

TexShare - TexShare is a cooperative borrowing program among academic libraries in Texas.