

USING LIBRARY RESOURCES AT A DISTANCE

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Developing Research Skills

- requires critical thinking and problem-based learning techniques
- takes time, patience, and practice
- stays with you and serves for a lifetime

Necessary Search Skills

- Scheduling time – usually lots of time – to get from start to finish on a research project; this takes estimating skills which you will have to learn as you go along

More Necessary Search Skills...

- **Developing ability to clearly define topic and to identify important concepts for the search statement**
- **Consulting dictionaries and encyclopedias for an overview of unfamiliar topic areas**

Did I Mention Research Skills?

- **Working acquaintance with logical operators: -- and, or**
- **Devising search terms – keywords vs. thesauri**
- **Honing search statement construction**

Don't Forget to...

- **Evaluate search results**
- **Obtain documents that aren't online:**
 - DELCAT
 - WorldCat (database on the Library's database web page)
 - Library near you
 - Interlibrary Loan

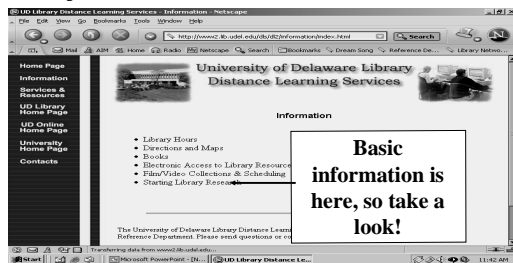
Gain Access to Library Resources

- Make sure you have the proper application software and internet browser setup (the proxy server and adobe acrobat at least)
- Read the Library's "How to Connect" information at <http://www.lib.udel.edu/welcome/connect.html>

Most Importantly...

- If you have problems or questions, please contact Division of Special Programs at 302-831-2416 or call Computing Services at 302-831-8825 or use the web form <http://www.udel.edu/help/webtt.html>
- Do not call the Library, we can't help you with connection problems

Library Distance Learning Resources <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dls/dls2/information/index.html>



Okay, where do you start?

- Survey the topic and clarify unfamiliar terms
- Clearly define the topic
- Decide what types of resources are needed
- Decide on other limiting factors

3 Basic Types of Research Tools

1. Databases – generic files of research materials
2. DELCAT -- the University of Delaware Library's online public catalog
3. World Wide Web – an incredibly huge conglomerate of all kinds of information

Now You're Ready to Search!

- Budget your time
- Search databases to locate articles on a topic
- Search DELCAT to locate books on a topic or journals online in the Library's collections

Also...

- Consider using references in articles to locate additional sources if needed
- Evaluate your sources
For evaluation criteria go to <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/howto/evalsour.htm>

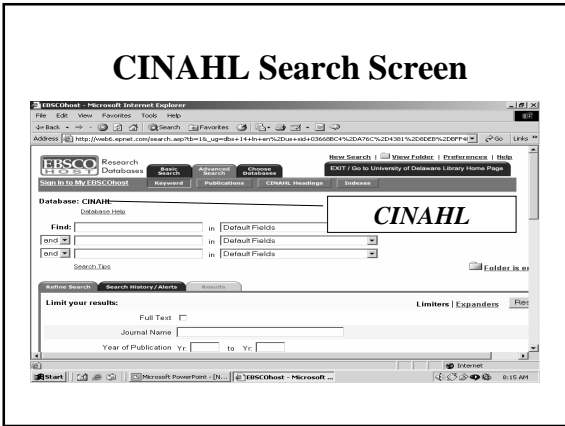
**The 1st Important Research Tool:
Databases**

- Databases are generic catalogs of articles and other types of documents by topic
- Databases usually permit both keyword and thesauri searching

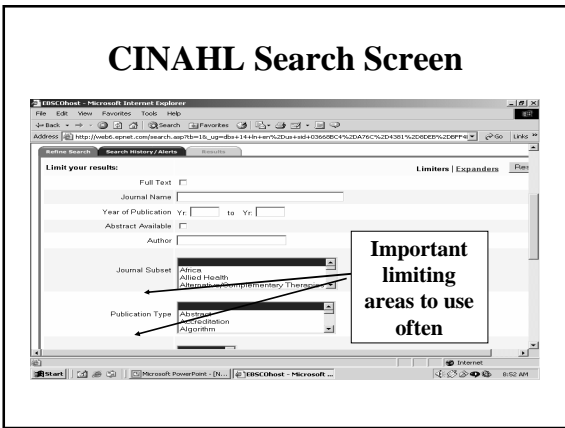
Databases

- Databases cover specific time periods. Some are very current only; some are very comprehensive in time, and some are archival having only historic, dated information
- Databases often contain links to full text online

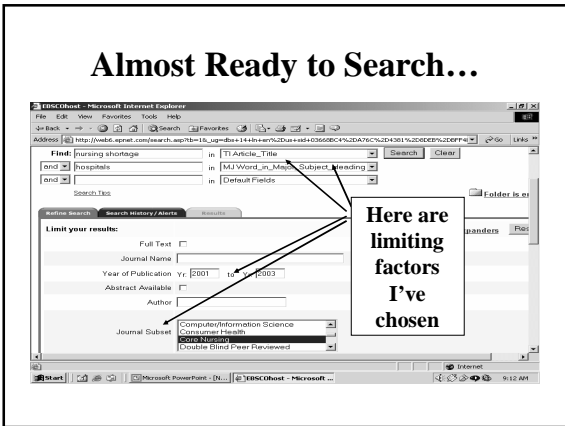
CINAHL Search Screen



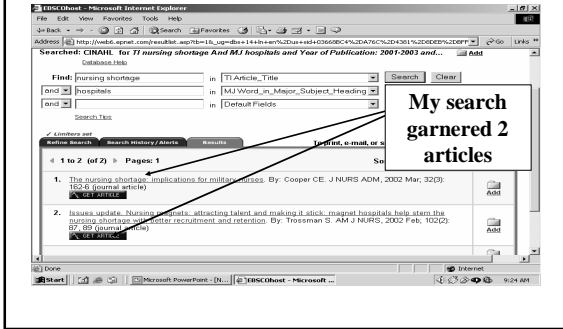
CINAHL Search Screen



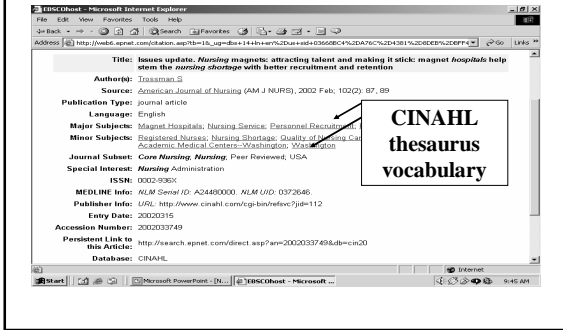
Almost Ready to Search...



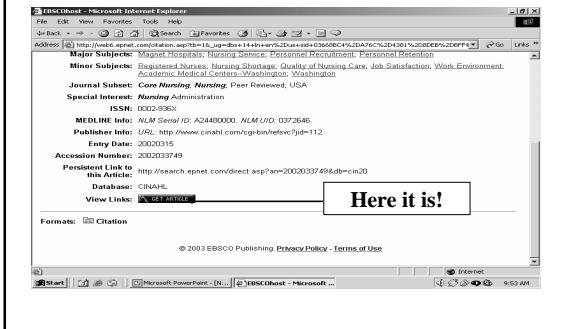
Search Results from CINAHL



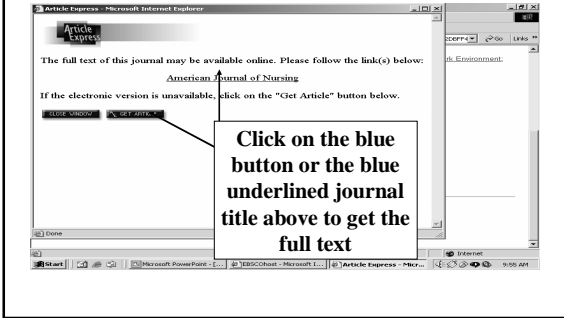
A Full Record from CINAHL



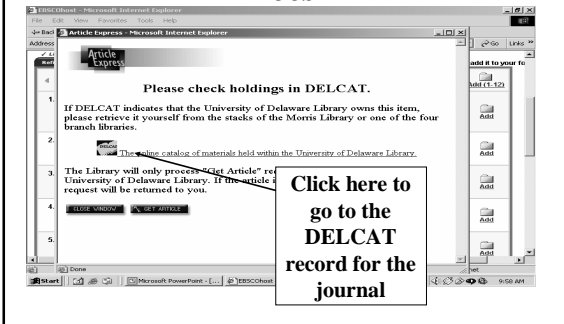
The Big Blue Button!



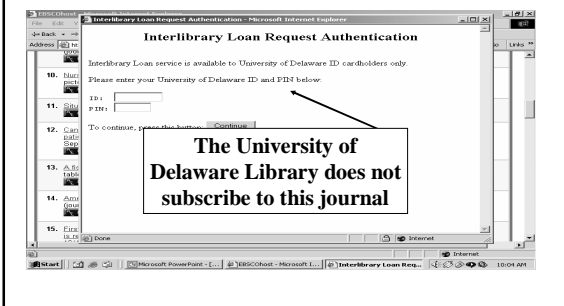
The 1st Thing that the Blue Button does



The 2nd Thing the Blue Button Does



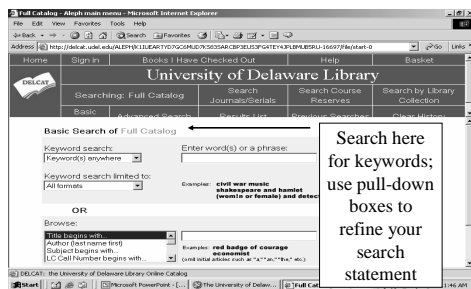
The 3rd Thing the Blue Button Does

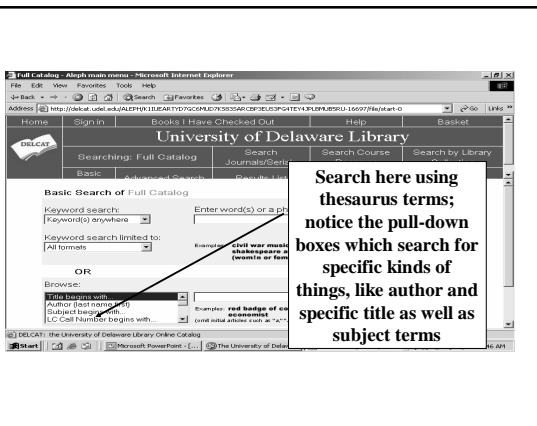


The 2nd Important Research Tool: DELICAT

- DELICAT lets you locate books owned by and journals subscribed to by the University Library and its branches
- DELICAT provides searching by keyword and thesaurus vocabulary, as well as by author, title, and other distinctive means

<http://delicat.udel.edu/>





Useful Library Web Links

- Library's home page
<http://www.lib.udel.edu/>
- Nursing Subject Page
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/nurs/>
- Starting Library Research
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/usered/starting.htm>

MORE USEFUL LINKS

- DELCAT <http://delcat.udel.edu/>
- Virtual Reference Page
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/virtref.htm>
- Subject Guides A-Z
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/>

MORE USEFUL LINKS

- Ask A Librarian
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/askalib/>
- Databases <http://www.lib.udel.edu/db/>
- Evaluation Criteria
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/howto/evalsour.htm>

OTHER USEFUL LINKS

- **More Evaluation Information**
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/usered/infolit/search.htm>
- **Distance Learning Resources Page**
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dls/dl2/index.html>
- **Interlibrary Loan**
<http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/ill/>

What is Interlibrary Loan?

- **Virtually all libraries have some sort of interlibrary loan service (ILL)**
- **ILL services provide books and photocopies of articles that the libraries don't own**
- **ILL takes time**

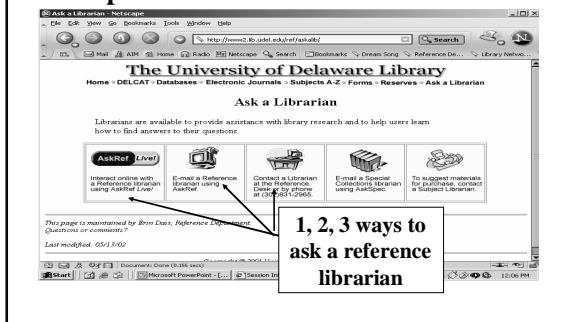
Distance ILL Service: Facts of Life

- **If you live too far to use the University of Delaware Library's ILL, go to a public library near you to get your materials; you will probably have to pay for copies of articles**

When You Have Research Questions

- Contact me about research questions:
Demaris Hollembeak demaris@udel.edu
- Ask questions using the “Ask A Librarian”
web pages <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/askalib/>

Asking Questions is Easy <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/askalib/>



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