Learning goal (in class): Students are introduced to the library research toolkit, four steps of online database searching, and a research model

Student demonstrations – Do these ideas make sense? Why is this important (or why not)?

- **CUNE research toolkit** (list of research resources in three parts: **Research model**; **Research strategy**; **Research tips**)
- **ATLAS database example search** at [http://tinyurl.com/3v27ktf](http://tinyurl.com/3v27ktf) (5min screencast [click for transcript](http://tinyurl.com/3v27ktf))

  The four steps of online database searching as illustrated in the screencast are:
  1. Identify the main concepts in your research question
  2. List synonyms, related terms, and subject terms to represent the research question’s main concepts
  3. Create a preliminary search
  4. Interact with the search results to revise the search

- **“The research process”** (3min tutorial) See also **One perfect source?** (2min video) or **Picking your topic is research** (3min video)

More information

- **CUNE library online research help desk** [http://wp.cune.edu/libraryresearchhelp/](http://wp.cune.edu/libraryresearchhelp/)
  - Where do I start?
  - Where do I find more information about…?
  - Link Library main page [http://www.cune.edu/library](http://www.cune.edu/library)
  - Research help meeting request

- How to contact the reference and instruction librarian [http://www.cune.edu/librarystaff](http://www.cune.edu/librarystaff)

Learning goal (hands-on searching): Students practice four steps of online database searching using ATLAS to find three peer-reviewed, scholarly articles, asking for help as needed

Use ATLAS to find three peer-reviewed, scholarly articles each of which answers an aspect of your research question. Email the articles to yourself. Ask questions during the hands-on searching session if you need help, or [contact a CUNE librarian](http://www.cune.edu/librarystaff).

Before beginning to search, write down your research question, identify its main concepts, and list synonyms, related terms, or subject terms as illustrated in the screencast from above. [Click for a summary of the screencast search](http://www.cune.edu/libraryresearchhelp/).

Search Tips:

1. Using many synonyms and related terms is a good idea since it increases your chances of finding relevant articles – you can always narrow your search by reducing the number of search terms.
2. Use search terms that might reflect an academic scholar’s thinking or vocabulary.
3. You might need to search for your research question’s concepts independently – that is, search for one concept at a time. Then, combine or synthesize the results to answer your research question. This is as illustrated in “The research process” (3min tutorial from above) as well as in **One perfect source?** (2min video) or **Picking your topic is research** (3min video).
4. Use *history or doctrin*′ to narrow search results.
5. Use the name of a theologian who is associated with a denomination, doctrine, or theological point of view to narrow search results.
6. [Contact a CUNE librarian](http://www.cune.edu/librarystaff) with questions.

Hands-on searching feedback online survey at [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QH6T5T8](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QH6T5T8)