1. What is my assignment creating my information need? What kind(s) of information do I need and in what amount(s)? Where do I find the information I need and how do I search effectively? Where can I find help?

2. Based on what I wrote on my completed worksheet The research topic, what are some effective search techniques?

Example: How do the media affect one’s body image
(Source: http://clue.library.wisc.edu/)

Technique #1: Identify key concepts

How do the media affect one’s body image

Technique #2: Use synonyms, subject terms, truncation, phrase searching, …
See “Database search expressions” at http://wp.cune.edu/libraryresearchhelp/

media or television or advertis*  
[ * = all endings such as -e, -ed, -er, -es, -ing, -ement, -ements, … ]

“body image” or “self-image”

Technique #3: Create a preliminary search statement using operators [ and, or, not, ( ), … ], field searching, limiting, …

media and “body image”  
television and “body image”  
advertis* and “body image”  
media and “self-image”  
television and “self-image”  
advertis* and “self image”

(media or television or advertis*) and (“body image” or “self-image”) [this is called a search statement]

Technique #4: Interact with your search results and modify your search statement as needed – “the answers you get depend on the questions you ask.” Evaluate search results based upon criteria such as currency, authority, accuracy, audience, and point of view. Create a marked list or folder and email search results.

3. How do I discover subject terms (controlled vocabulary) and use them to search for relevant articles?
See “Keyword and subject searching” at http://wp.cune.edu/libraryresearchhelp/

4. How do I limit search results to academic/scholarly/peer reviewed periodicals?

5. How extensive is the Help documentation, and where can I find a tutorial and help sheet?

6. How can I find the full text article if it is not available in the online database I’m using?
   (1) Search Journal Finder http://www.cune.edu/librarydatabases > Journal Finder, to find out if another CUNE online database contains the full text article. (2) Search the CUNE library catalog http://www.cune.edu/library to find out if the CUNE library holds the issue in paper or microfilm. (3) Submit an electronic interlibrary loan request from EBSCO or FirstSearch databases or at http://www.cune.edu/libraryILL. Allow 24 hours to 5 business days or more for delivery.

7. Other questions I have about where to find information for the assignment in this class or how to search for it….

More Information
CUNE Research Toolkit http://wp.cune.edu/libraryresearchhelp/toolkit/

Comments? Questions? Reference and Instruction Librarian tom.krenzke@cune.edu L-111 800.535.5494 ext7256