LOCATING AN ASSIGNED ARTICLE FOR READING

Let’s assume you have been assigned to read the following article:


How would you locate it?

Use the [WSU Catalog](#) to check and see if the library owns the journal *Ecology*, as well as the issue that you need. Watch this demonstration [video](#).

**Practice Exercise 1** Locate this article from the [WSU Catalog](#):

LOCATING RESEARCH ARTICLES ON A TOPIC

You might have heard of scholarly peer-reviewed articles. But what does it mean? Watch this explanation [video](#).

Let’s assume your professor wants you to research the following topic:
What general biogeographical patterns exist in fungi?

**Your search phrase should look like this:**
“BIOGEOGRAPHICAL PATTERN*” AND FUNG*

The “” quotation marks is to ensure that your search will find articles containing the exact phrase BIOGEOGRAPHICAL PATTERN.
The * at the end of a stem word is a wildcard. It allows you to search for variations of a word. For eg. FUNG* will find articles with any of the following words: FUNGI, FUNGUS, FUNGAL.

**Databases you can use to locate research articles for this lab class:**

**QuickSearch**
Covers research articles from multiple disciplines in the sciences, social sciences and the humanities. QuickSearch is a great database because it has options that will allow you to narrow the focus of your search (ie. limit the no. of articles you will find).
Watch this demonstration [video](#).

**Science Citation Index Expanded**
Covers research articles published primarily in the sciences. Science Citation Index Expanded is a great database because it allows you to expand your search (ie. locate more articles to support your paper) through the use of cited and citing references.
Watch this demonstration [video](#).

**Practice Exercise 2** Use [QuickSearch](#) and [Science Citation Index Expanded](#) to locate research articles for the following topic: examine the competitive behavior between fire ants and Argentine ants. What should your search phrase look like?

**Databases you can use to locate research articles for BIO classes at the 3000 and 4000 level:**

**BIOSIS Citation Index**
Covers research articles in all areas of biology.

**Zoological Record**
Covers research articles in all areas of animal biology such as biodiversity, environmental studies and veterinary science.

**PubMed**
Provides free access to the National Library of Medicine’s database called MEDLINE. Covers biomedical research articles.

**SPORTDiscus**
Covers research articles in sports, physical fitness and sports medicine.

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