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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