

English 102 :: Library Research Worksheet

Course homepage: <http://www.georgehwilliams.net/102>

Bring the notes you create in response to this worksheet to your one-on-one conference with Dr. Williams.

By now, you should have three rough ideas for your final project. As the syllabus explains:

You will make one of two choices about a final project:

1. One option is to choose a local community service organization with whom to volunteer your time, following up your service with a reflective, autobiographical essay that incorporates relevant research and makes a proposal to fellow students about such service.
2. Or you will conduct extensive research about a local community service organization and write a paper that proposes how future sections of English 101 and/or English 102 involve themselves with that organization.

Today, you'll conduct preliminary research about each of your possible organizations. Point your web browser to <http://www.uscupstate.edu/library> and select databases from the alphabetical list:

1. Search these news databases for information on your organization or organizations like it:
 - a. Custom Newspapers
 - b. Lexis-Nexis Academic
 - c. New York Times
2. Search Google to find an official website for the organization. What does the official website say about the organization's
 - a. Mission?
 - b. History?
 - c. Funding?
 - d. Volunteers?
 - e. Board of directors?
3. Find the organization at <http://www.CharityNavigator.org> and see how it's evaluated.
 - a. Is there an entry for the local organization? What does the entry say for the local?
 - b. If the local is part of a national organization, what does the entry say for the national?
4. From the home page for the library, click on "all resources by title" (right under the alphabet)
 - a. Which databases are most likely to contain information relevant to each organization? (For instance, if you're looking into volunteering at a hospice center, then a database devoted to health, medicine, or nursing would be most relevant.)