

Social Ecology 195
Field Studies - Vikander
Summer I2005

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The writing assignment for this section of Field Studies will encourage you to use a variety of information resources. This handout will provide some hints about different approaches and some tools, resources and strategies you can employ to make the learning experience more integrated with your social ecology curriculum.

1. **Research Paper** - requires a literature review - this can be accomplished in several ways, including choosing an appropriate topic and getting it approved for starters. Use the Library website at <http://www.lib.uci.edu> for:
 - **Article Databases** - access to journal literature and scholarly, trade and variety of information sources by subject or keyword - examples include:
 - **PsycINFO*** - can easily find empirical studies by Publication Type (* use accompanying guide for more effective & efficient use)
 - **Sociological Abstracts**
 - **Social Services Abstracts**
 - **PubMed**
 - **Environmental Sciences and Pollution Management**
 - **Web of Science**
 - **Business Source Premier**
 - **Expanded Academic ASAP**
 - **Lexis Nexis** - for News & Legal Information
 - **Westlaw Campus** - legal information
 - **LegalTrac** - legal information
 - **Google Scholar** - see <http://scholar.google.com>
 - **Other web resources** - use the **Subject Guides on the Library Website** at www.lib.uci.edu

Hints:

- Determine what subject or discipline your topic supports - it may be an interdisciplinary example that bridges several disciplines.
- If your field site has a web presence, introduce that with the URL
- For the Literature Review, consider the context - what your role is and the way your contribution will be integrated in the work of the agency or work environment
- Academic references may include journal articles from the scholarly or academic press (peer reviewed); book chapters; conference proceedings and other alternative content - trade publications and news articles are generally not considered "academic" but if there is sufficient use of the former, then additional supplemental content will be acceptable.

- Make sure that there is a conclusion or wrap-up for how this all comes together

Additional Information - consider some of the following resources:

- Ask a Librarian at <http://www.lib.uci.edu/services/ask/ask.html>
- Citation Sources - <http://www.lib.uci.edu/online/reference/citation.html> - use APA Style Manual at http://www.english.uiuc.edu/cws/wworkshop/bibliography_style_handbookapa.htm or <http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html>