



A Tour of Information Resources for Natural Disasters

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Today's objectives

Learn how to:

- identify sources of background info & databases for natural disasters
- convert your question into an effective search strategy
- locate books & journal articles



Our research topic

Damage to power lines
after the 1998 ice storm
in Quebec



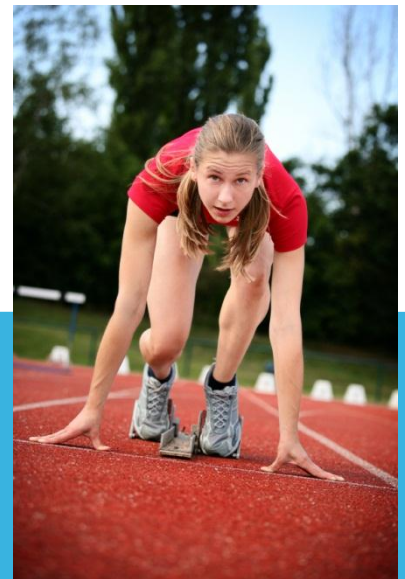
Image from NixBC at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/barclaynix/6365063193/>

ATOC/EPSC 185 Course Guide

- provides links to sources of background info & core research databases to get you started:

www.mcgill.ca/library/find/courses/guides/atoc185



McGill Library website

www.mcgill.ca/library

McGill WorldCat

Classic Catalogue

Finding references to articles: *Web of Science*

- provides references to articles in approximately 12,000 peer-reviewed journals
- journals covered are in the sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities
- cited reference searching available



Identify key concepts

Damage to power lines
after the 1998 ice storm
in Quebec



Image from NixBC at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/barclaynix/6365063193/>

The concepts are:

Damage to **power lines**
after the **1998 ice storm**
in **Quebec**



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Brainstorm synonyms

CONCEPT 1: power lines	electricity		
CONCEPT 2: ice storm	freezing rain		
CONCEPT 3: Quebec / 1998	Canada	Ontario New Brunswick	Montreal

Building your search

CONCEPT 1:
power lines

power **OR** electricity

AND

CONCEPT 2:
ice storm

ice storm **OR** freezing rain

AND

CONCEPT 3:
Quebec
/ 1998

Canada **OR** 1998 **OR** Quebec **OR** Montreal **OR** Ontario **OR**
New Brunswick

Searching with keywords

Use * to search for variant word endings

e.g., electric* finds:

electric

electricity

electrical



Search strategy

(power OR electric*)

AND

(ice storm* OR freezing rain*)

AND


(Canad* OR 1998 OR Quebec OR Montreal OR Ontario
OR New Brunswick)

How to Locate the Complete Text of References

- Click on the “Find it” button or Full-text link
- Button or link not there? Search McGill Library’s Classic Catalogue (**Note:** Search for the journal name when trying to locate a journal article.)
- Not available @ McGill? Request it through Colombo



Off-campus? No problem!



Connecting to resources is EZ!
Start your search from the
library's homepage at
www.mcgill.ca/library

Summary of Key Points

Where can you find references to journal articles?

How would you search for **planets** or **planetary** in *Web of Science*?

How would you obtain journal articles or books that are not available at McGill?



Where can you find references to books?

Questions?

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