

Advanced Internet Searching

Class Description

A focus on effectively searching the Internet which includes a look at different Internet search engines, improving the quality of search results, limiting search results to particular sites and/or domains, and evaluating the quality of the information you find.

Class Length

One to one and one-half (1-1½) hours

Introduction

There is a huge amount of information on the Internet — about 50 billion web pages, by some estimates. Trying to find just what you need from such an enormous number is too much to do without a computer: but computers are really good at finding things and when a bunch of computers are put together to “surf the ‘net”, they can create a really large index which is used to return results when you send a query (a search). But not all the information is good.

Anyone can easily create a website which looks very professional. The pages on a conspiracy theorist’s website may look better than the pages on a respected university’s website. Critical thinking is essential, but there are also some techniques for assessing the validity of a website’s information.

Objectives

- Knowledge of databases
- Value of a trusted website
- Being skeptical and fact-checking
- Search techniques
- Using the Wayback Machine

This is a handout for you to keep. Please feel free to use it for taking notes.

Rule #1 – Consider (verified) databases available to you

Databases specializing in a specific area will get you better information than what can be typically obtained from a general Internet search engine, provide balanced views of topics, and do not include hoaxes or conspiracy theories.

The Geneva Public Library District, as of November 2016, offers the following databases (subject to change):

1. Access Science — More than 9,000 articles and research updates with citations
2. Amazing Animals of the World — Wild animals and their habitats
3. America the Beautiful — State-by-state history, biographies, timelines and current events
4. Ancestry Library Edition — Federal census, birth, death, and marriage records. *Only available for use in the library.*
5. AtoZ Maps Online An online database of world maps
6. AtoZ the USA — Maps, flags, photos & facts about US states, counties, cities & territories
7. AtoZ World Travel — A detailed travel resource for business and leisure travelers for more than 200 world cities
8. AtoZdatabases — Search for people and businesses, conduct market research and discover business opportunities
9. Biography in Context — Curriculum aligned resource on more than 525,000 individuals
10. BookFlix — Engaging online literary resource to build a love of reading in children
11. Britannica Library Reference Center — Contains a dictionary, world atlas, biographies, & country comparisons
12. Chicago Manual of Style — 16th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style
13. Chicago Tribune — The Chicago Tribune full text
14. Chilton Library — Detailed information for vehicle maintenance and repairs
15. College Preparation Center — ACT & SAT practice tests, interactive tutorials and eBooks to help you prepare for college admissions
16. Consumer Reports — Product ratings from Consumer Reports world-famous test labs
17. County and Regional Histories & Atlases: Illinois — Illinois statistics, chronologies, directories and atlases covering 1832-1921
18. CultureGrams — Detailed cultural information on more than 200 countries
19. CultureGrams Kids Edition — Kid's-eye view of daily life in countries around the world
20. CultureGrams States Edition — Explore all US states in colorful, kid-friendly reports
21. Enciclopedia Estudiantil Hallazgos — World Book Spanish Language Encyclopedia
22. Encyclopaedia Britannica Online for Kids — Kids interface to the Encyclopedia Britannica
23. Encyclopedia Americana — Information on history, language, religion, science, sports, art and more
24. ePrep — Preparation for the SAT,ACT,PSAT,PLAN, & SSAT
25. Ferguson's Career Guidance Center — Information on jobs, industry overviews, internships and scholarships
26. FirstSearch — Collection of databases featuring articles on a wide variety of topics
 - a. ArticleFirst — index of articles from the contents pages of journals
 - b. ClasePeriodica — index of Latin American journals in the sciences and humanities
 - c. Ebooks — catalog of online electronic books available through libraries worldwide
 - d. ECO — collection of scholarly journals
 - e. ERIC — journal articles and reports in education
 - f. GPO — U.S. government publications
 - g. IllinoisCatalog — catalog of materials in Illinois libraries
 - h. MEDLINE — all areas of medicine, including dentistry and nursing
 - i. OAIster — a union catalog of millions of records that represent open access resources. This catalog was built through harvesting from open access collections worldwide
 - j. PapersFirst — index of papers presented at conferences worldwide
 - k. Proceedings — index of worldwide conference proceedings
 - l. WorldCat — catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide — very useful for InterLibrary Loan requests
 - m. WorldCatDissertations — database of all dissertations and theses in WorldCat

27. Gale Artemis Literary Sources — Search multiple premier literature databases simultaneously--contains critical analysis, work overviews, author biography & more
28. Gale Directory Library — Authoritative directories on companies, publishers, associations and more
29. Gale Virtual Reference Library — 450+ research eBooks and thousands of articles for expert information you can count on
30. General Reference Center Gold — Contains articles, many full-text, on popular topics
31. Geneva Republican — Covers 1878-2012
32. Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia — Text and images derived from the Academic American Encyclopedia database
33. Grolier Online Kids — Designed for younger students' research needs
34. Grolier Online Passport — Includes The New Book of Knowledge, Lands & Peoples, and The New Book of Popular Science
35. Health & Wellness Resource Center — Articles on health, medicine, fitness and nutrition
36. HelpNow! — Live one-to-one homework help from 3-10 pm; practice tests and study aids
37. HeritageQuest Online — Census, genealogies, local histories, and military records
38. Historical Newspapers — Includes Chicago Tribune (1849-1992), Wall Street Journal (1889-1998), New York Times (1851-2012), Los Angeles Times (1881-1991), Washington Post (1877-1999)
39. Inside MLB — Baseball fans can research their favorite teams, players, and the history of MLB
40. Inside the NFL — Football fans can research their favorite teams, players, and the history of the NFL
41. Issues & Controversies — In-depth investigations of issues in business, politics, government, education and popular culture
42. Job & Career Accelerator — Powerful tools and expert guidance to help you find a great job
43. JobNow! — Live job coaching, resume assistance, practice interviews and more
44. La Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre — Grolier Spanish Encyclopedia
45. Lands and Peoples — Information on countries and culture
46. LearningExpress Library — Test preparation, practice test and job search information
47. Literature Criticism Online — Contains literary criticism and author biographies for contemporary literature
48. Literature Resource Center — Biographies and critical analyses of novelists, poets, and essayists
49. Little Pim — Language learning for 0-6 year olds.
50. Lynda.com — Online tutorials on business, software, technology and other creative skills
51. Mango Languages — Many languages are offered in online courses beginner to advanced
52. Miss Humblebee's Academy — Online curriculum for children preschool through kindergarten, providing strength in the core subject areas of math, science and social studies, language and literacy, art, and music.
53. Morningstar — Comprehensive data and independent analysis on thousands of investments
54. Muzzy Online — An interactive and fun way to learn a second language.
55. National Geographic — National Geographic Magazine Archive from 1888 to the present
56. New Book of Knowledge — This resource provides reference and current events
57. New Book of Popular Science — Provides information on science and technology including biographies and science in the news
58. Novelist K-8 Plus — Summaries and reviews of fiction, and suggestions for what to read next
59. Novelist Plus — Discover great books to read, both fiction and non-fiction
60. Overland Journeys: Travels in the West, 1800-1880 — Primary sources detailing settlers and their epic journeys west
61. Oxford English Dictionary — Definitive Record of the English Language
62. Oxford Reference — Oxford's encyclopedias and scholarly reference titles; categories include
 - a. Archaeology
 - b. Art and Architecture
 - c. Classical Studies
 - d. History
 - e. Language Reference
 - f. Law
 - g. Linguistics
 - h. Literature
 - i. Media Studies
 - j. Medicine and Health

- k. Music
 - l. Names Studies
 - m. Performing Arts
 - n. Quotations
 - o. Philosophy
 - p. Religion
 - q. Science and Technology
 - r. Social Sciences
 - s. Society and Culture
63. PebbleGo — Text, games, audio and video highlighting animal and science concepts for grades K-3
 64. Primary Search — Older students can access magazines, animal and general encyclopedias
 65. Record Information Services — Search for Illinois new businesses, foreclosures & auctions and real estate transactions
 66. ScienceFlix — High-engaging science digital resource for students in grades 4 through 9
 67. Something about the Author — A great resource for information about authors and illustrators of books for children and teens.
 68. Student Resources in Context — Perfect for students. Covers major school subjects including history, literature, science, and social studies
 69. Today's Science — Explains important developments in biology, chemistry, the environment, space, physics, and technology
 70. TrueFlix — Engaging online literary resource to build a love of reading in children
 71. U.S. Presidents — Articles and online games about the US Presidents - Grades 3-5
 72. Universal Class — Over 500 online non-credit continuing education courses
 73. US Major Dailies — Includes Chicago Tribune, Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor, New York Times and Washington Post full text.
 74. Value Line Research Center — Covers stocks, mutual funds, options and convertible securities as well as special situation stocks
 75. WilsonWeb OmniFile — Multidisciplinary full-text articles; databases include:
 - a. Primary Search
 - b. Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia
 - c. Book Index with Reviews
 - d. BIR Entertainment
 - e. OmniFile Full Text Select
 - f. Middle and Junior High Core Collection
 - g. Senior High Core Collection
 - h. Public Library Core Collection: Nonfiction
 - i. Fiction Core Collection
 - j. Children's Core Collection
 76. World Book Web — WorldBook for kids and WorldBook Info Finder for older students
 77. World News Digest — US and World News 1940-present
 78. WorldCat — Find books and other materials in libraries worldwide

Rule #2 – If you know of a trusted website which focuses on what you seek, go directly there (and have it bookmarked [saved as a ‘favorite’])

(Examples: <http://www.imdb.com/> dedicated to movies and television; <http://www.azlyrics.com/> dedicated to music lyrics)

There are a number of websites dedicated to one subject which strive to keep visitors coming (it is a lot easier to lose people than it is to get them) by maintaining quality of information and ease of use. When you find one for a subject of interest, bookmark it and use it. A result in a general Internet search engine may be hit-or-miss.

Rule #3 – be skeptical, especially of an unfamiliar website

1. If a search engine's results are mostly from sites with an agenda (conspiracy theories, left-wing, right-wing, etc.) try adding **hoax** or **scam** or **fake** to the search term(s) — these results might shed light on the topic.
2. If a 'news story' is sensational, or if a friend/acquaintance shared it, but you cannot easily find it in a mainstream news website, be skeptical and search further before assuming it is true and before sharing it with someone. Good websites for checking the accuracy of a story:
 - a. <http://www.factcheck.org/> - mostly political; a nonpartisan, nonprofit "consumer advocate" for voters that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics. They monitor the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players in the form of TV ads, debates, speeches, interviews and news releases. Their goal is to apply the best practices of both journalism and scholarship and to increase public knowledge and understanding.
 - b. <http://www.politifact.com/> - mostly political; reporters and editors from the *St. Petersburg Times* fact-check statements by members of Congress, the White House, lobbyists, and interest groups and rate them on its 'Truth-O-Meter'.
 - c. <http://www.opensecrets.org/> - not exactly a fact-checking website, but a nonpartisan guide to money's influence on U.S. elections and public policy. It reports how much contribution a representative of Congress gets from a specific company or a lobby group.
 - d. <http://www.snopes.com/> - a fact-check website for religion, e-mail, scams, hoaxes, urban legends, and rumors covering an astounding number of topics. Probably the most venerable fact-checking website (since 1995).
 - e. <https://www.truthorfiction.com/> - an email reality check providing the truth about rumors, 'inspirational stories', 'virus warnings', hoaxes, scams, humorous tales, pleas for help, urban legends, prayer requests, calls to action, and other forwarded emails; covers almost every hoax that lands in your Inbox.
 - f. <http://www.hoax-slayer.com/> - dedicated to debunking e-mail hoaxes, thwarting Internet scammers, combating spam, and educating web users about email and Internet security issues.

Rule #4 – if a search engine's results are unsatisfactory, repeat the search with words removed, added, or changed

Sometimes a word or two can make a huge difference. Be as specific as possible. Using the correct term is important. Spelling is very important (but many search engines do a decent job of 'guessing' what you really meant and offer to change the search to the correct spelling).

When searching for a common name (person or place), add additional information (occupation, birthplace, country, etc.) to ensure you get the right one.

Use Boolean logic and quotation marks (and Advanced search options)

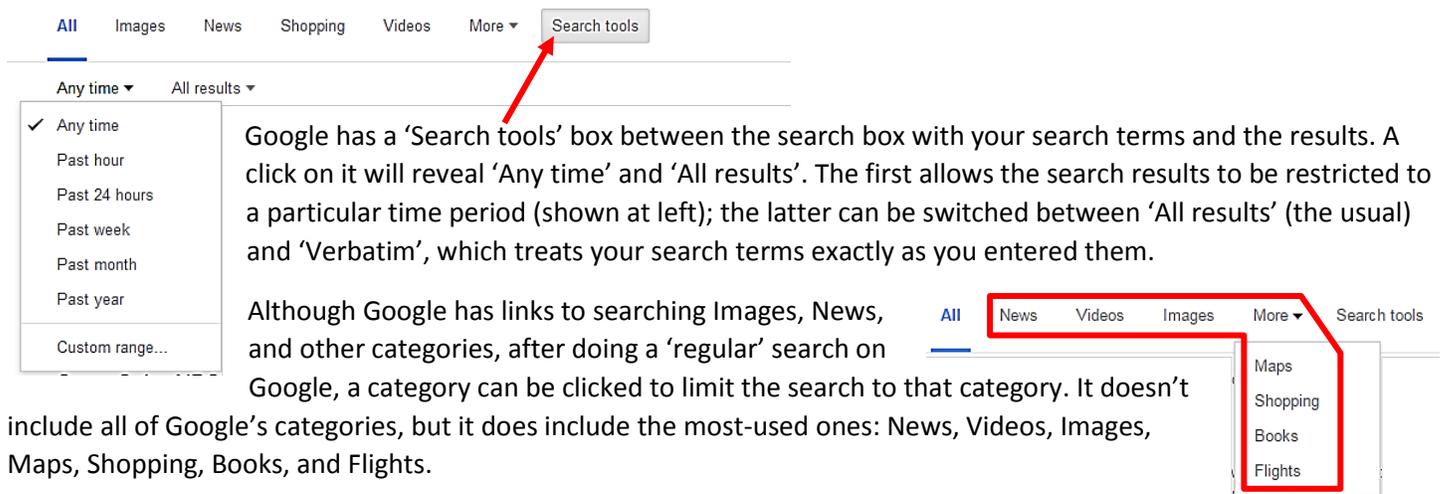
The three basic operators are **AND**, **OR**, and **NOT**. Most search engines assume an **AND** between terms entered. Google requires Boolean operators to be in ALL CAPS and the minus sign must be used instead of **NOT**.

A search on **cubs** alone will return a lot of things. Some search engines, like Google, consider your network location (and, if you are signed in, your place of residence). If you are in the Chicago area or it knows you are from the Chicago area, it will include the Chicago Cubs, regardless of the time of year). A search on **snow cubs** will get mostly information on snow leopard cubs, but also information on a program by that name at a ski resort. A search of "**snow leopard cubs**" is much more specific, but may exclude a page titled *How many cubs are in a snow leopard litter?*

A search on **college students test anxiety** will return a lot of things. If you search on "**college students**" **AND** "**test anxiety**", the results will not include high school students being tested for anxiety who want to go to college.

A search on **ethics cloning genetics reproduction** will probably only return broad discussions of ethics without any focus. But **ethics AND (cloning OR genetics OR reproduction)** is more likely to produce results which refer to ethics in any of those three categories. *If you use a combination of **AND** and **OR** operators in a search, enclose the words to be 'ORed' together in parentheses.* It is okay to use 'the' and 'a' within quotations, but omit them otherwise (search engines usually ignore them).

A search on **cubs NOT chicago** (or **cubs -chicago**) should eliminate results containing Chicago (but see next paragraph for Google searches). A plus sign before a word **cubs +wrigley** will only give results which include that term.

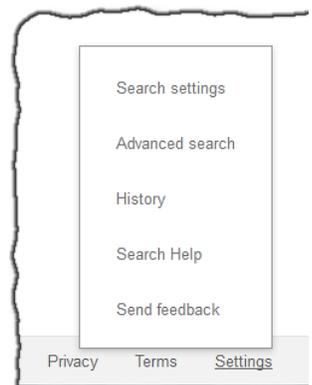


The image shows a Google search interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: All, Images, News, Shopping, Videos, More, and Search tools. A red arrow points to the 'Search tools' button. Below it, a dropdown menu is open, showing options: Any time (checked), Past hour, Past 24 hours, Past week, Past month, Past year, and Custom range... To the right of this menu, there is text explaining the 'Search tools' box. Below that, another screenshot shows the 'More' dropdown menu with options: News, Videos, Images, More, Search tools, Maps, Shopping, Books, and Flights. A red box highlights the 'More' dropdown menu.

Google has a 'Search tools' box between the search box with your search terms and the results. A click on it will reveal 'Any time' and 'All results'. The first allows the search results to be restricted to a particular time period (shown at left); the latter can be switched between 'All results' (the usual) and 'Verbatim', which treats your search terms exactly as you entered them.

Although Google has links to searching Images, News, and other categories, after doing a 'regular' search on Google, a category can be clicked to limit the search to that category. It doesn't include all of Google's categories, but it does include the most-used ones: News, Videos, Images, Maps, Shopping, Books, and Flights.

In the lower-right corner of the Google search page, if you click on 'Settings', a small window pops up (see image at right) from where you can click 'Advanced search'. This will open https://www.google.com/advanced_search which provides the options available using Boolean logic in a easy-to-understand layout — and more.



The image shows a small window that pops up in the lower-right corner of the Google search page. It contains a list of links: Search settings, Advanced search, History, Search Help, and Send feedback. At the bottom of the window, there are links for Privacy, Terms, and Settings.

Use the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine: <https://archive.org/web/web.php>

When you click on a link or bookmark (favorite in Internet Explorer) and receive a 404 error message (Page Not Found), you can try copying the web page's address and enter it in the Wayback Machine. If the page has been archived, you may be able to view the page as it existed at an earlier time (there may be multiple dates available, allowing you to choose to see the page at different times. Even websites which no longer exist may have archived pages.

The Wayback Machine also allows you to have a web page archived as it presently appears.

Some websites are poorly organized — you can use a search engine to search the site.

A search on **samsung s7 site:samsung.com** will return pages discussing the Samsung S7 phone from Samsung's website; change it to **samsung s7 site:verizon.com** and you'll only get results on Verizon's website. You can also use just a top level, e.g. **site:.gov** to limit the search to U.S. government websites, or **site:.uk** to limit the search to websites in the United Kingdom.

Some search engines filter results based on what it knows about you

Google is (in)famous for doing this: two people, especially if they are logged in to Google (including Gmail), entering identical terms for a search can get very different results. See the chart on the last page for which search engines do this.

Use the autocomplete feature

Most search engines, examining what you are typing, display suggestions. Not only can it save typing, but it also produces a search which you or others have already done, increasing the quality of the results. It may also give you ideas for related searches.

Quick math calculations and unit conversions can be done on many search engines

Entering $18/4$ in a search engine will return an answer of **4.5** — the operators and the order of precedence are the same as spreadsheets (^ for exponential, * for multiplication, / for division, + for addition, and - for subtraction) with calculations in this order: parentheses, exponential, multiplication/division, addition/subtraction. Some search engines will even add parentheses to make the order of calculation clear.

Entering **1500 meters in miles** (you can substitute 'to' for 'in') will return an answer (the number of decimal places depends on the search engine) of about **0.9320568** (mile).

Resources

- I. Internet search engines
 - A. General search engines (Google isn't the only one!)
 - i. Google - <https://www.google.com/>
 - ii. Bing - <http://www.bing.com/>
 - iii. Yahoo! - <https://www.yahoo.com/>
 - iv. DuckDuckGo - <https://duckduckgo.com/>
 - v. Gigablast - <http://www.gigablast.com/> (supports nested Boolean search logic using parenthesis and infix notation)
 - vi. SurfWax - <http://lookahead.surfwax.com/>
 - vii. @WalmartLabs (was Kosmix) - <http://www.walmartlabs.com/>
 - B. Metasearch engines (most tend to pull results from multiple sources)
 - i. DeeperWeb - <http://deeperweb.com/> (employs 'tag cloud' techniques for navigating through Google search results)
 - ii. Dogpile - <http://www.dogpile.com/> (results from Google, Yahoo! and Yandex, and others)
 - iii. excite - <http://excite.com/> (collated from over 100 different sources)
 - iv. info.com - <http://www.info.com/> ('best results from the world's leading search engines')
 - v. ixquick - <https://www.ixquick.com/> (highlights privacy as distinguishing feature; includes start page)
 - vi. Kartoo - <http://www.kartoo.com/> (directory and search engine)
 - vii. Search.com - <https://www.search.com/> (from CBS Interactive)
 - viii. Webcrawler - <http://www.webcrawler.com/> (results from Google Search and Yahoo! Search)
 - ix. Yippy - www.yippy.com/ (formerly Clusty; offers 'clusters' of results)
 - C. Directories
 - i. The WWW Virtual Library - <http://vlib.org/>
 - ii. Digital Librarian - <http://www.digital-librarian.com/> ('a librarian's choice of the best of the Web')
 - iii. DMOZ (formerly Open Directory Project) - <http://www.dmoz.org/>
 - D. Subject-specific
 - i. Science
 - a) Science.gov - <http://www.science.gov/> (searches multiple science-oriented government web sites, covering most science areas)
 - b) Vadlo - <http://www.vadlo.com/> (covers biomedical and life sciences)
 - c) GoPubMed - <http://www.gopubmed.org/web/gopubmed/> (medical information; search includes links to definitions, Wikipedia articles, statistical information on results, and more)
 - d) NextBio **[subscription]** - <https://www.nextbio.com/> (search for biological information, including clinical trials, news, data and journal literature)

- ii. Social Sciences
 - a) Economics Search Engine - <http://ese.rfe.org/> (custom Google search engine focusing on 23,000 economics web sites)
 - b) LawCrawler - <http://lp.findlaw.com/> (searches the web and databases for legal information)
 - c) Biznar - <http://biznar.com/biznar/desktop/en/search.html> (searches the web for business information)
 - d) ThomasNet - <http://www.thomasnet.com/> (searches for product, company, or brand information, or by one of over 67,000 categories)
 - e) Research Resources for the Social Sciences - <http://www.socsciresearch.com/> (searches resources on social sciences topics)
 - f) Education Planet - <http://www.educationplanet.com/> (search/browse information on education topics, including lesson plans)
 - g) Education World - <http://www.educationworld.com/> (search for education topics, including lesson plans)
 - h) ZPID PsychSpider - <https://www.zpid.de/PsychSpider.php> (psychology-specific search engine that includes data, tests, and also MEDLINE information)
 - i) Social Psychology Network - <http://www.socialpsychology.org/asearch.htm> (searches psychology-specific sites with ability to browse or limit searches to specific topics)
- iii. Arts & Humanities
 - a) Yahoo! Music - <https://www.yahoo.com/music/> (search for musical information, including videos, lyrics, and news)
 - b) Artcyclopedia - <http://www.artcyclopedia.com/index.html> (search for fine art information; search by artists, work titles, or by museum names/locations)
 - c) History Engine - <http://historyengine.richmond.edu/pages/home> (information on a wide variety of U.S. history topics; includes summaries, links to resources, courses at a variety of colleges/universities, maps, and more)
 - d) Footnote [subscription] - <https://www.fold3.com/> (search for documents on U.S. military history topics)
 - e) American Memory - <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html> (searches the Library of Congress's American Memory Collections for information on U.S. history)
- iv. Format-specific
 - a) Data
 - 1. Wolfram|Alpha - <http://www.wolframalpha.com/> ('computational search engine' which is difficult to describe; can compare multiple topics side-by-side)
 - 2. ICPSR - www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/index.jsp (searches social science data)
 - b) Images
 - 1. Google Images - <https://images.google.com/>
 - 2. picsearch - <http://www.picsearch.com/> (image search service with more than 3 billion pictures)
 - 3. pixabay - <https://pixabay.com/en/> (free images and videos which can be used anywhere)
 - 4. Free Image Bank - <http://en.freejpg.com.ar/> (free photos for commercial and editorial use)
 - 5. TinEye - <http://www.tineye.com/> (reverse image search: upload an image and see where it or other versions can be found)
 - 6. Pixsy - <https://www.pixsy.com/> (reverse image search designed to find and fight image theft)
 - c) Video
 - 1. TubeSurf - <http://tubesurf.com/> (find videos on YouTube, MySpace Videos, Google Video, and Yahoo! Video)
 - 2. Google Videos - <https://www.google.com/videohp> (Internet-wide search for videos)
 - 3. blinkx - <http://www.blinkx.com/> (searches video, including music and television)
 - 4. PBS - <http://www.pbs.org/> (provides online archives which can be searched for any spoken word pronounced in them)
 - 5. TVEyes - <http://www.tveyes.com/> (makes radio & TV searchable by keyword, phrase or topic, just as you would use a search engine for text)
 - 6. YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/> (searches only within YouTube)
 - 7. vimeo - <https://vimeo.com/> (searches only within vimeo)
 - 8. dailymotion - <http://www.dailymotion.com/us> (searches only within dailymotion)

9. Vine - <https://vine.co/> (looping videos; searches only within Vine)
 10. metacafe - <http://www.metacafe.com/> (only searches within metacafe)
- d) Audio
1. FindSounds - <http://www.findsounds.com/> (searches for audio files; offers easy options for type of sound file [AIFF, AU, MP3, WAVE], whether mono or stereo, resolution, and sample rate)
 2. AZLyrics - <http://www.azlyrics.com/> (large collection of lyrics)
- e) Bit Torrent
1. Mininova - <http://www.mininova.org/> (search engine and directory of torrent files)
 2. The Pirate Bay - <https://thepiratebay.org/> - frequently blocked and/or shut down (searches torrents for television shows, music, audio, video, applications, games, and more [some of questionable legality])
- v. Type-specific
- a) Blogs
1. IceRocket - <http://www.icerocket.com/>
 2. Sphere - <https://www.sphere.com/>
- b) Books
1. What's Next - <http://ww2.kdl.org/libcat/whatsnext.asp> (searches series fiction where two or more books are linked by character(s), settings, or other common traits; does not search standalone books)
 2. FreeBookSearch.net - <http://www.freebooksearch.net/> (powered by Google, includes audiobooks)
 3. Google Books - <https://books.google.com/> (search engine of 'the world's most comprehensive index of full-text books', many which can be downloaded)
 4. BookFinder.com - <http://www.bookfinder.com/> (search engine and price comparison of used books, rare books, textbooks, new and out-of-print books)
 5. AddALL - <http://www.addall.com/> (book search and price comparison)
 6. BookFinder4u.com - <http://www.bookfinder4u.com/> (search and price comparison of new, used books, textbooks, and book rentals at 130 book stores worldwide)
 7. Powell's Books - <http://www.powells.com/> (website of an independent bookseller with stores in the Portland, Oregon area with an inventory in excess of two million volumes)
- c) Business
1. Alibaba.com - <http://www.alibaba.com/> (claims to be world's largest database of suppliers, offering search, company directory, catalog, trade leads, etc. for consumer-to-consumer, business-to-consumer, and business-to-business sales services)
 2. Accuity - <https://accuity.com/portfolio/bankers-almanac-risk-compliance/> (under the Bankers Almanac name, provides information directly from banks and primary sources, for conducting know-your-customer and due diligence on correspondent banks)
 3. business.com - <http://www.business.com/> (gateway 'for buyers to discover, learn about, compare and buy the products and services they need to run and grow their businesses')
 4. Hoovers - <http://www.hoovers.com/> ('the World's Largest Business Intelligence Database')
 5. Kompass - <http://us.kompass.com/> ('Business-to-Business information provider')
 6. LexisNexis - <http://www.lexisnexis.com/en-us/home.page> ('a leading global provider of content-enabled workflow solutions designed specifically for professionals in the legal, risk management, corporate, government, law enforcement, accounting, and academic markets')
 7. ThomasNet - <http://www.thomasnet.com/> ('Where serious buyers find qualified suppliers')
- d) Education & Academia
1. Google Scholar - <https://scholar.google.com/> (can either search articles with or without patents or search case law, which permits selecting the courts to include in a search)
- e) Finance
1. Federal Trade Commission's page on free credit reports - <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports>
 2. Hotbot - <http://www.hotbot.com/> (search engine for shopping, travel, and money)
- f) Jobs
1. CareerBuilder - <http://www.careerbuilder.com/> (posting of résumés and job openings)
 2. craigslist (Chicago) - <http://chicago.craigslist.org/> ('classified ads' online)

3. CV Fox - <http://www.cvfox.com/> (searches for résumés, a popular tool with professional recruiters)
4. Dice - <http://www.dice.com/> (emphasis on tech jobs)
5. Monster - <https://www.monster.com/> (posting of résumés and job openings)
6. indeed - <http://www.indeed.com/> (searches multiple sources, résumés can be posted)
7. Recruit.net - <http://usa.recruit.net/> (allows job seekers to search listings from corporate web sites, job boards, recruitment agencies, and other sources; includes international job listings)
8. SimplyHired - <http://www.simplyhired.com/> (searches job openings)
9. Ladders – <https://www.theladders.com/> (helps job seekers and employers connect to fill well-paid professional jobs)

g) Legal

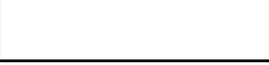
1. Attorney search
 - a. martindale.com - <http://www.martindale.com/> (search for lawyers and law firms; operates next two sites)
 - Lawyers.com - <http://www.lawyers.com/> (ratings and reviews of more than a million lawyers)
 - attorneys.com - <http://www.attorneys.com/> (search for local attorney by speciality)
2. Free Internet Legal Information
 - a. FindLaw for Legal Professionals - <http://lp.findlaw.com/> (includes case law, case summaries, statutes, legal search engine, legal news, RSS court updates, and practice information)
 - b. Government Publishing Office (Federal Digital System) - <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/> (access to official Federal Government publications, including authenticated PDF documents)
 - c. Guide to Law Online (Law Library of Congress) - <http://www.loc.gov/law/help/guide.php> (annotated Portal containing selected links to United States, Foreign, and International law resources, many offering primary, full-text legal materials)
 - d. Justia - <https://www.justia.com/> (includes case law, statutes, regulations, articles, opinion summaries [newsletter], and limited access to Federal District Court dockets)
 - e. Legal Information Institute (LII) (Cornell University Law School) - <https://www.law.cornell.edu/> (provides primary legal materials, legal encyclopedia, and the Supreme Court Bulletin)
 - f. Public Library of Law (Fastcase) - <http://www.plol.org/Pages/Search.aspx> (includes case law, statutes, regulations, court rules, constitutions, and legal forms)
 - g. WashLaw Legal Research on the Web (Washburn University School of Law) - <http://www.washlaw.edu/> (links to federal, state, international, and foreign law, search government information by topic)
 - h. Illinois Legal Aid Online - <https://www.illinoislegalaid.org/>
3. Law-specific search engines
 - a. Cornell Law Library Legal Search Engine - <https://law.library.cornell.edu/> (searches legal Internet, research guides, and blogs)
 - b. Dagnet (New York Law School Library) - http://www.nyls.edu/library/library_services/dagnet1/dagnet/ (search limited group of law websites, constitutions and codes, and law reviews with online content)
 - c. Google Scholar Search - <https://scholar.google.com/> (searches all scholarly literature, including federal and state legal opinions and journals)
 - d. Legal Web Search (Justia) - <https://www.justia.com/search> (then click on 'Legal Web Search' link)
 - e. LexisWeb - <http://www.lexisweb.com/> (searches both free legal information and fee-based resources available from LexisNexis, search results may be limited by filtering options)
4. Government Information
 - a. Internal Revenue Service - <https://www.irs.gov/> (federal tax forms and information)
 - b. Illinois Revenue - <http://www.revenue.state.il.us/#&panel1-1> (Illinois tax forms and information)
 - c. Illinois.gov - <https://www.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

- d. CyberDriveIllinois.com - <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/> (Illinois Secretary of State site for information on driver's licenses, auto plates, and more)
 - e. Illinois Online Voter Application - <https://ova.elections.il.gov/RegistrationLookup.aspx> (includes ability to look up registration status)
- h) Maps
1. Google Maps - <https://www.google.com/maps/>
 2. Mapquest - <https://www.mapquest.com/>
 3. Rand McNally - <http://www.randmcnally.com/>
- i) Medical
1. Entrez Global Query Cross-Database Search System - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/gquery> (search of the National Center for Biotechnology Information [division of National Institute of Health] databases)
 2. The European Bioinformatics Institute - <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/> ('The home for big data in biology')
 3. gopubmed - <http://www.gopubmed.com/web/gopubmed/>
 4. KMLE [King's Medical Library Engine] Medical Dictionary - <http://www.kmle.com/> (American Heritage Stedman's Medical Dictionary comprehensive resource including tens of thousands of audio pronunciations and abbreviation guides)
 5. WebMD - <http://www.webmd.com/> (source for health information, a symptom checklist, pharmacy information, and a place to store personal medical information)
 6. MedlinePlus - <https://medlineplus.gov/> (consumer information from the U.S. National Library of Medicine)
 7. U.S. National Library of Medicine - <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/>
 8. healthfinder.gov - <https://healthfinder.gov/> consumer information from the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion; includes health tips, find a doctor, and more)
 9. PDR+ on PDR.net - <http://www.pdr.net/browse-by-consumer-monograph-name/> (searches by drug brand name)
- j) News
1. Google News - <https://news.google.com/> (search and browse 4,500 news sources continuously updated)
 2. MagPortal - <http://www.magportal.com/> (searches freely available online magazines by browsing categories or using search engine)
 3. NewsLookup.com - <http://www.newslookup.com/> (searches thousands of news sites by source region and media type with continuously updated headlines)
 4. topix - <http://www.topix.com/> (entertainment and news aggregator)
- k) People
1. Use social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)
 2. eVerify.com - <http://www.everify.com/> (search by name, phone, address, or e-mail)
 3. AnyWho - <http://www.anywho.com/> ('white pages', 'yellow pages', and reverse phone number lookup)
 4. Finding-People.com - <http://www.finding-people.com/> (tips and links to numerous tools for finding people)
 5. Spock.com - <http://www.spock.com/>
 6. Zabasearch - <http://www.zabasearch.com/>
 7. Zoom Information - <http://www.zoominfo.com/> ('extracts information about people and companies from millions of published resources')
 8. Whitepages - <http://www.whitepages.com/person> (people, reverse phone, reverse address, and public records searches)
 9. 411.com - <http://www.411.com/> ('Find neighbors, distant relatives or anyone in the country'; searches for People, Phone, Business, and Address)
 10. Intellius - <https://www.intellius.com/people-search> (People and Reverse Phone Number searches; offers a little information and offers to sell more)
 11. LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/> (this works best if one has an account; includes ability to search unseen, but this option means others cannot find you)
 12. Spokeo - <http://www.spokeo.com/> (name, social, phone, and address searches)

- l) Public Records
 - 1. Prisoners
 - a. VINELink - <https://vinelink.com/#/home> (includes people held in county jails awaiting transfer to state or federal systems)
 - b. Illinois Department of Corrections - <https://www.illinois.gov/IDOC/OFFENDER/Pages/InmateSearch.aspx>
 - c. Illinois Sex Offenders Lookup - <https://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/> (includes ability to search municipalities)
 - d. Federal Inmate Locator - <https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc/>
 - 2. County Records
 - a. Kane County Recorder's Office, Land Records Search - <http://lrs.kanecountyrecorder.net/Search/Advanced>
 - b. Kane County Circuit Clerk eServices Portal - <http://kocis.countyofkane.org/KOCIS/KOCIS.html> (unfortunately, this uses a lot of Adobe Flash which may be blocked on more secure computers)
 - c. The County of DuPage, Recorder's Online Documents - <https://recorderbeta.dupageco.org/Search.aspx>
 - d. DeKalb County Government Databases - http://dekalbcounty.org/search_databases.html
 - e. Circuit Clerk of Kendall County Online Court Records - <http://www.co.kendall.il.us/circuit-clerk/online-court-records/>
- m) Real Estate (see also Public Records section)
 - 1. Zillow - <http://www.zillow.com>
 - 2. ForSaleByOwner - <http://www.forsalebyowner.com/> ('The World's Largest By-Owner Site')
 - 3. realtor.com - <http://www.realtor.com/> (official site of the National Association of Realtors; lists properties all across U.S.)
 - 4. trulia - <https://www.trulia.com/>
- n) School
 - 1. The College Search Engine - <http://www.thecollegesearchengine.com/> (results only from web pages of schools; searches worldwide)
- o) Shopping
 - 1. Shop Wiki - <http://www.shopwiki.com/> ('all stores. one search')
 - 2. shopzilla - <http://www.shopzilla.com/>
 - 3. mamma - <http://mamma.com/> (coupon code & discount search engine)
 - 4. RetailMeNot - <https://www.retailmenot.com/> coupons and discounts)
 - 5. Google Shopping - <https://www.google.com/shopping>
 - 6. kelkoo for business - <https://www.kelkoo.com/>
 - 7. mySimon - <https://www.mysimon.com/> (price comparison)
 - 8. NexTag - <http://www.nextag.com/> (price comparison)
 - 9. pricegrabber - <http://www.pricegrabber.com/> (price comparison)
- p) Travel
 - 1. Kayak - <https://www.kayak.com/> (metasearch for travel)
 - 2. Mobissimo - http://www.mobissimo.com/search_airfare.php (metasearch for travel)
 - 3. Google Flights - <https://www.google.com/flights/> ('Find flights, track prices and book your next destination')
- q) Question & Answer websites
 - 1. Answers - <http://www.answers.com/>
 - 2. Ask.com (originally Ask Jeeves) - <http://www.ask.com/> (designed to respond to queries in 'natural language')
 - 3. Askmenow.com - <http://www.askmenow.com/index.php>
 - 4. eHow - <http://www.ehow.com/> (articles and videos offering step-by-step instructions on 'how to do just about everything')
 - 5. Yahoo! Answers - <https://answers.yahoo.com/>

- r) Weather
 - 1. National Weather Service - <http://www.weather.gov/>
 - 2. Weather Underground - <https://www.wunderground.com/>
 - 3. Weather Underground Historical Weather - <https://www.wunderground.com/history/>
 - 4. The Weather Channel - <https://weather.com/>
 - 5. The Old Farmer's Almanac - <http://www.almanac.com/weather> (includes a weather history section)
- s) Hobbies and Miscellany
 - 1. Genealogy
 - a. Ancestry Library Edition – Library database of Federal census, birth, death, and marriage records. *Only available for use in the library.*
 - b. HeritageQuest Online – Library database of census, genealogies, local histories, and military records
 - c. FamilySearch - <https://familysearch.org/>
 - d. Social Security Death Master File - <http://ssdmf.info/>
 - 2. Auto Repair
 - a. Chilton Library – Library database with detailed information for vehicle maintenance and repairs
 - b. AutoZone - <http://www.autozone.com/> (a great deal of information on vehicle repair)
 - 3. Games
 - a. Cheatsearch.org - <http://www.cheatsearch.org/> (searches all of the most popular cheat sites and forums to find cheats for any game)
 - 4. Entertainment
 - a. IMDb - <http://www.imdb.com/> (movies, television shows, actor information)
 - b. Rotten Tomatoes - <https://www.rottentomatoes.com/> (movie reviews)
 - c. metacritic - <http://www.metacritic.com/> (reviews of movies, music, and video games)
 - d. common sense media - <https://www.common sense media.org/> (reviews of movies, books, and more aimed at families with children)
 - e. kids in mind - <http://www.kids-in-mind.com/> ('Film ratings & parents' reviews that actually work')
 - f. VideoETA - <http://videoeta.com/index.html> (movie and television show release dates)
 - 5. Graphic Design
 - a. Canva - <https://www.canva.com/> (site for designing signs, facebook or other social media ads, etc.; can be used free but also has design elements that cost \$1 each)
 - b. postermymwall - <http://www.postermymwall.com/index.php> (site for designing posters and flyers)
 - 6. The 100 Best Websites List - <http://www.100bestwebsites.org/> (non-profit site using '21 criteria of excellence' to determine their list which strives 'to ensure that at least one site from every major area in which the Internet is particularly powerful is represented.')

Search Engine Comparison and Usage

Search Engine	Company	Year Begun	Server Location(s)	HTTPS available?	Internet censorship?	Pages Indexed (billions)	Daily direct queries (millions)	Results count	Adverts?	HTTP tracking cookies?	Personalized results?	IP address tracking?	Information shared with others?	Browser redirects?	Jan 2013 - Sep 2016 usage
Baidu	Baidu	2000	China / Japan	No	China	unknown	unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	
Bing	Microsoft	2009	USA / China	Yes (SSL blocked in China)	China	13.5	unknown	Yes	Yes	unknown	unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	
DuckDuckGo	DuckDuckGo	2008	USA	Yes	No	unknown	10	No	optional	No	No	No	No	No	
Gigablast	Independent	2000	USA	Yes	unknown	> 1	unknown	Yes	No	unknown	No	No	No	No	
Google Search	Google	1998	USA	Yes	Argentina, China	40	319	Yes	Yes	unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Soso.com	Tencent	2006	China	No	China	unknown	unknown	No	No	Yes	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	
Startpage / Ixquick	Ixquick	1998	USA / Netherlands	Yes	China	unknown	3.4	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	
YaCy	Independent	2011	peer-to-peer	NA	unknown	1.4	0.13	Yes	No	unknown					
Yahoo! Search	Yahoo!	2004	USA	Yes	Argentina	10	unknown	Yes	Yes	unknown	unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Yandex Search	Yandex	1997	Russia	Yes	unknown	> 2	unknown	Yes	Yes		Yes	unknown	No	unknown	

Questions? Feel free to contact Ross Valentine at rvalentine@gpld.org or call the library at 630.232.0780