



# COLLEGE of SAN MATEO LIBRARY

<http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/library/>

## LIBRARY CATALOG:

<http://catalog.plsinfo.org/search/X>

Find books, videos, journals, and newspapers in the CSM library and its partners in the Peninsula Library system (PLS). You can search this online from **any** computer that has Internet access.



## SELECTED LIBRARY DATABASES:

<http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/library/databases.php>

- Most CSM library databases can be accessed from **on** and **off campus** computers.
- You must have a current Peninsula Library System card to use these databases from your home or work computer.
- These are subscription databases restricted to students, faculty, staff, and administrators at CSM.

**Britannica Online Academic Edition** is a great place to begin researching any topic. Includes an atlas, videos, quotations, and world data.

**Access Science** is a great place to research environmental topics. The Study Center on the home page offers Essay Topics and Study Guides.

**U.S. Immigration & Migration Reference Library** has information about the history of immigration to the US from early times to the present day.

**Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America** contains information about ethnic groups with an emphasis on culture and history of settlement patterns.

**Academic OneFile** is a multi-subject database containing scholarly journal, magazine and newspaper articles on the arts and the humanities, the social sciences, sciences and technology.

**Opposing Viewpoints** covers topical social issues, with viewpoint articles, topic overviews, statistics, primary documents, and links to Web sites and articles.

**CQ Researcher** explores a single "hot" issue in the news in depth each week. Topics range from social and teen issues to environment, health, education and science and technology.

## USEFUL INFORMATION AND SERVICES

**Library Hours:** Monday-Thursday 7:45am-7pm  
Friday 7:45am-3pm  
Saturday 11am-2pm

**Reference desk** (650) 574-6232

**A Librarian is available at the Reference Desk during all open library hours.** Stop by or contact us by phone, email, IM, or make an appointment. See library home page for info. and directory.

**Help with understanding the arrangement of books in the CSM Library:**

[http://www.usg.edu/galileo/skills/unit03/libraries03\\_04.phtml](http://www.usg.edu/galileo/skills/unit03/libraries03_04.phtml)

## CITATION RESOURCES

The reason for citing your sources is to give credit to those authors whose ideas you used in your research. More information can be found at <http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/library/citing.php>

**NoodleBib -**

<http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/library/citing.php>  
Generate and save a bibliography in MLA or APA format. Create an account from on campus or ask a librarian for first-time CSM login.

**NoodleBib Express -**

<http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/library/citing.php>  
Basic citation generator - no account required. This has limited features compared to subscription version above.



## TIPS FOR ONLINE SEARCHING

### SAMPLE SEARCHES

Keyword search using terms or phrases:      Sierra Leone civil war  
Green vehicles

Exact phrase searching uses quotes:            “colony collapse disorder”

### REFINE YOUR SEARCH BY USING BOOLEAN LOGIC (**AND, OR, NOT**):

**AND** narrows a search, though the AND is usually implied (i.e. sustainable AND farming). This searches only for items containing both search terms.

**OR** expands or broadens a search (i.e. GMO OR genetically modified foods) This searches for either term, thus widening the possibilities.

**NOT** excludes specific terms (i.e. factory farms NOT United States). This would be useful if you wanted to find info on factory farms in other areas besides the United States.

Not all search engines use the same commands. For instance, Google and Ask.com do not recognize NOT in a search. You can use + or – before your term to *require* or *exclude* a specific word or phrase (i.e. factory farms –United States or factory farms +United States).

### Truncation:

Environment\* returns results including environment, environmental and environments

### Try Searching in multiple search engines:

All search engines offer different functionalities. To learn more about each one, you can locate and visit their help pages, or visit UC Berkeley’s list of Recommended Search Engines found on their site at <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/SearchEngines.html>

### Advanced Search:

It is a good idea to try out a few different search engines when looking for information on a topic. Also, you can use the *Advanced Search* option of a search engine or library catalog to limit or expand your search by options such as Boolean logic, language, location, title, domain, country, when the page was last modified, and material type. Look for “search tips” or “Help” if you’re unsure of protocols.