Forestry 152

Pick a topic, do some research, find some sources, write a paper, and get a grade. Okay, that sounds pretty easy! Let’s break it down into a few easy steps—or at least the research and sources part of it!

The first thing to do is decide on a topic and put that topic in the form of a question that you will answer, or put the topic in the form of a statement that will be discussed in your paper. You are in luck because Dr. Kidd has done that for you in the list of topics he gave. Pick a topic that you are interested in because you are going to be spending some time with it!

What is your topic? Write it down, or look at it on the list. You need to locate the key terms, or key words, in the topic. Circle those key terms and create a list with them. Are there any synonyms that can be used in the place of the key words? Those should be listed beside the word for which they are a synonym. We will use those words to create a search strategy using the connecting terms (i.e. Boolean operators) AND, OR, and NOT.

If my topic is:

Describe the effects of wolf reintroduction on the ecology and natural communities of Yellowstone National Park.

Then the key words would be:

wolf  reintroduction  ecology  natural communities  yellowstone

Any synonyms?

Once the search strategy is prepared, go to the Library home page (https://library.sfasu.edu/). Click on RESEARCH, scroll down and click on Forestry, then click on FOR 152.
Begin by using the Article Databases listed there. Be sure and use Google Scholar!

In the end, you may need more assistance. Contact your Liaison Librarian for Forestry, Tina Oswald, at 936-468-1861, toswald@sfasu.edu, or stop by her office in the Library, Room 202B.
How do I find an article when I have the citation?

With your citation in hand (including journal title, date, volume, page numbers, the article title, and author) follow the instructions below:

1. Use the Search Box on the library homepage (https://library.sfasu.edu/)
2. From the drop-down menu, select Journals@Steen

![Journals@Steen](image)

3. Enter the journal title (not the article title) into the search box and click Search.
4. On the list retrieved, find the exact journal title you need. The list is in alphabetical order.
5. Below the journal title, review the list of databases.
6. Compare the date you need with the dates available listed with each database/publisher.
7. Choose the database or publisher that matches the date you need.
8. Follow the link to the appropriate database or journal. Then, select the year or volume needed. Next, look for the article title or page numbers you need.
9. If there is not an electronic match for your journal title and date:
   a. Look for a link that says “in Stephen F. Austin State University's Print Holdings.”
   b. Follow this link into the catalog and look at the dates of our holdings.
   c. If we have the year you need, note the call number and retrieve the journal. Current and older issues of the print journals are on the 3rd or 4th floor depending on the first letter of the call number:  A-N 4th; P-Z 3rd

10. The library does not have everything that is cited in our databases. If you really need the article, or other research materials, and there is no access, use Interlibrary Loan off the QUICK LINKS list to request the item. The best part? It is FREE!!

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