Kahn – TA/ENG 127 Online Research Tools

The OWL
The Purdue University Online Writing Lab, http://owl.english.purdue.edu/

The Purdue OWL offers over 200 free resources including MLA style guides, as well as information and tools to learn grammar and mechanics, English as a second language, job search and professional writing, and much more.

SJSU LIBRARY
Navigating online resources

Academic Gateway: http://www.sjlibrary.org/gateways/academic/

How to find a scholarly article from the SJSU library website:

1. From the Academic Gateway, click on the link for “Articles and Databases.”
2. Choose a database from the A-Z list, the General Subjects List, or the SJSU Research Topics list. (When in doubt, choose Academic Search Premiere.)
3. From the “search” page, type some search terms. Make sure you check the box that says “Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals.”
4. Browse articles until you find something that’s interesting to you. Export the reference to RefWorks.

Other ways to search for scholarly articles:

Scholarly journals normally limit access to their online articles to subscribers, who may be individuals or institutions. As a student at San Jose State University, you have access to the journals and indexes that SJSU subscribes to. If you use a non-SJSU library source like Google Scholar, make sure you set your preferences to reflect your affiliation with San Jose State. This way, you’ll be able see the text of articles you find.

FILM AND THEATRE ARTICLES

Communication & Mass Media Complete (CMMC) covers journals in communication and mass media.

Film & Television Literature Index with Full Text is a comprehensive bibliographic and full-text database covering the entire spectrum of television and film.

Arts & Humanities Full Text articles and citations in humanities journals covering a wide range of disciplines.

Humanities Full Text Humanities Abstracts provides references to articles from more than 400 English-language publications including many performing arts journals.

JSTOR Electronic archive of older (at least 2-5 years) issues of core scholarly journals; emphasis on Humanities, Literature, Language, Music and Social Sciences.

MLA Bibliography Although best known as a literature database, MLA Bibliography also indexes many critical articles on theatre and film.

North American Theatre Online contains over 40,000 pages of dramatic criticism and interpretation. The database features in-depth detailed records for more than 10,000 plays.

Academic Search Premier Full text for more than 4,650 publications, including more than 3,600 peer-reviewed journals. This scholarly collection offers information in nearly every area of academic study.
**Newspaper articles** can be useful for locating reviews of exhibitions, artist interviews, and biographical information on artists. You will need to use a variety of databases for complete coverage of newspaper articles.

**Lexis/Nexis Academic** Complete text of newspapers, magazines, newswires, transcripts of TV and radio news, trade publications, laws and court cases.

**ProQuest Newsstand** Full text of U.S. and international news sources in newspaper and periodical formats, other news sources and newswires.

**ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Times** Provides full-text, full image, cover-to-cover access to the New York Times from 1851 through 2005.

**San Jose Mercury News** Full-text content of local and regional news, including community events, schools, politics, government policies, cultural activities, local companies, state industries, and people in the community.

**RefWorks**

From the Academic Gateway, click on the link to RefWorks. (It is important that you “go in” through the SJSU library site so you can get free access as a San Jose State student.) When you are doing library research online, get in the habit of opening your RefWorks account first and keeping a Refworks window open while you work in the library site. This will make it easier for you to export library sources to your Refworks account.

**What to do now in RefWorks:**

1. Establish an account. (Group code: rwsjsu)
2. Play with the tutorials until you feel comfortable with the website. Practice importing sources from the SJSU library catalog using the “Search Online Catalog or Database” function. Also practice exporting articles from the library indexes to RefWorks.
3. When you find an article you want for your paper, store the reference in RefWorks.
4. Use the “bibliography” function to generate a citation of the article you intend to use.