LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Review research resources
- Review effective strategies for searching and accessing resources from the Web and databases
- Live demo on using library research databases
STARTING LINE
RESEARCH RESOURCES

- Books
- Databases of journal articles
DID YOU KNOW........
information available on the Internet is not regulated for quality or accuracy
almost anyone can publish anything they want on the Web
often difficult to determine authorship of Web sources
WHY DO YOU NEED TO EVALUATE INFORMATION FOUND ON THE INTERNET?

- even if the author is listed, he or she may not always be represented honestly
- the author may represent opinions as fact
- Therefore, the responsibility is on the user to evaluate resources effectively
Anyone can publish anything on the Internet

Millions and millions of hits
  - Which are accurate and valid?
  - Requires your time to evaluate

Does not include information found in library databases of scholarly journals
"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."
Some domains are more authoritative than others
  ➢ .edu
  ➢ .gov

Ask yourself
  ➢ Who wrote the information?
  ➢ When was it written?
  ➢ Why was it written?

Will the information I find through Google meet my professor’s requirements for scholarly materials?
Databases are Key

- Premium online subscription information resources
- Online collections of journal and newspaper articles, information from published works
- Searchable
- Often contain full-text articles
HOW TO START?

- Put the problem in the form of a question
- Search
- Examine your results
- Revise your search question if needed
What is the problem?
“Kids shouldn’t be allowed to wander the streets after dark, getting into trouble.”

What is the question?
“Do curfews prevent juvenile crime?”

What are the question’s concepts?
1: juvenile crime prevention  2: curfews
GENERAL RULE

Start big
then
narrow down

Is the reason for 0 results because there is
nothing in this database
or
(more likely)
were the wrong words used?
REVIEW

- Steps to evaluating Web sites
- Avoid Google and other search engines
- Review effective strategies for searching and accessing library research resources
- On to the live demo!!!
This presentation available online at  http://libraryguides.msmc.edu/garofalo_classes