

PROBLEM SET #2*Library Catalogs and Multidiscipline Databases*

DUE: 8:30 am, 20 September 2005

Work with your partner. You may write your answers together, using Word to create one document. Write and sign the honor code statement on your document.

1. **WorldCat.** Access from the Library's Web site. Refer to the searches you completed in OBIS and OhioLINK last week. Repeat your most useful Keyword or Subject Heading search from OhioLINK in *WorldCat* (use the pull-down menu to choose the correct search field). Notice other subject headings that may be assigned to relevant books (especially those that allow you to better focus your search), and search those as well; or refine your keyword search to use new terminology you discovered in earlier reading and searches. Describe your search strategy. How do the *WorldCat* results differ from OBIS and OhioLINK? Mark and email one of the best books to alison.ricker@oberlin.edu, remembering to include your name and Chem396 in the subject line.

Request any book that seems especially relevant through Interlibrary Loan (ILL), if it is not accessible through the OhioLINK Central Catalog. ILL requests are made online: <http://illiad.lib.oberlin.edu/illiad/logon.html>.

2. **ArticleFirst.** Access from the FIND ARTICLES category of the Library's Web site. Search your topic by keywords, using Boolean operators and truncation appropriately. Describe your search strategy and the search results. Consider quantity, relevancy, ease of use, and how current is the information retrieved.
3. **Academic Search Premier.** This multidisciplinary database indexes newspapers, magazines, and newsletters as well peer-reviewed journal literature. Try to find articles related to your topic from both popular and scientific sources. Describe your search strategy and results, and how you determined whether the sources retrieved were scholarly or written for a general audience. How does *Academic Search Premier* compare with *ArticleFirst*?
4. **Review.** You have identified by now significant keywords and searchable terms; list the terms that best describe your research topic. Some of the information you have collected so far should have broadened your initial understanding of the topic. Write a few paragraphs on this background information, considering context and history. **Provide the complete bibliographic citation for your best source materials to date, using ACS format.** *The ACS Style Guide*, 2nd ed., is on the top shelf of the science library reference desk collection.

The Honor Pledge: "I affirm that I have adhered to the Honor Code in this assignment."