HSC 300
Environmental Health Op-Ed
Lana Mariko Wood, MA, MS, AHIP
Faculty Librarian Liaison to Health Sciences
Agenda
1. Identifying a topic of interest
2. Identifying a target publication
3. Crafting your op-ed
4. Finding research for your op-ed
5. Evaluating Resources
6. Further Research Help
7. Session Evaluation

https://www.flickr.com/photos/barbourians/17630326518/
Identifying a topic of interest

“Find a current event that has happened recently or garnered a lot of attention in the news”

*Choose something of personal / professional interest*

- Environmental Health News: https://www.ehn.org/
- Grist: https://grist.org/
- NY Times Health section: https://www.nytimes.com/section/health
- SF Chronicle’s Health section: https://www.sfchronicle.com/lifestyle/health/
Identifying a target publication

Pick a target paper / publication for your op-ed, consider:

- Is the topic of local, regional, or national interest?
- Does your target paper accept op-eds?
  - [https://www.theopedproject.org/submission-information](https://www.theopedproject.org/submission-information)
  - Or check the paper’s homepage for op-ed submission instructions
- Has this paper published op-eds on environmental health topics in the past?
Crafting your op-ed

Now that you’ve identified your target paper / publication for your op-ed, consider:

- What style(s) and tone(s) are previous op-eds written in?
- What are their op-ed publication guidelines?

See the assignment prompt for further writing instructions.
Finding research for your op-ed

HSC 300 Research Guide
http://library.csueastbay.edu/HSC300

- Background Information
- Environmental and Health Sciences
- Law / Policy
- News / Current Events

Data & Statistics can be found in all categories
## Search construction: Boolean Operators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AND</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>NOT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your search will only retrieve resources that contain <strong>both</strong> words. This will <strong>NARROW</strong> your search and <strong>DECREASE</strong> search results.</td>
<td>Your search will retrieve resources that contain <strong>at least one</strong> of these words. This will <strong>BROADEN</strong> your search and <strong>INCREASE</strong> search results.</td>
<td>Type <strong>NOT</strong> before a keyword to exclude that word from your search. This will <strong>NARROW</strong> your search and <strong>DECREASE</strong> search results.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diet AND Exercise</th>
<th>African American OR Black</th>
<th>Public Health NOT Smoking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="venn-diagram-for-and-operators" alt="Venn Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="venn-diagram-for-or-operators" alt="Venn Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="venn-diagram-for-not-operators" alt="Venn Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Search refinement: Keywords vs. Subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Subject (Academic Search Complete Database)</th>
<th>Subject (PubMed Database)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heart Attack</td>
<td>Myocardial Infarction</td>
<td>Myocardial Infarction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Addiction</td>
<td>Opioid Abuse AND Drug Addiction</td>
<td>Opioid-Related Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQ</td>
<td>LGBT</td>
<td>Homosexuality AND Bisexuality AND Transgender People</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evaluating resources: CRAAP Test

- **Currency**: timeliness of information
- **Relevance**: importance of information for your needs
- **Authority**: source of information
- **Accuracy**: reliability, truthfulness, correctness of content
- **Purpose**: reason the information exists

Worksheet: [https://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf](https://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf)
How to get research help

Library Reference Desk (Drop-In)
1st Floor of Library (Hayward)
Circulation Desk (Concord)

24/7 Chat Reference (Drop-In)
http://library.csueastbay.edu/usingthelibraries/ask-us

Lana Wood (By Appointment)
https://calendly.com/wood
Lana.wood@csueastbay.edu
Please fill out the survey!