

## **Library Instruction Session: Identifying & Evaluating Resources**

This worksheet is designed to help you practice the skills introduced in your library instruction session. Refer to the Libguide at (<http://libguides.trinity.edu/plsi1301>) if you have any questions.

**Choose one of the following topics for this assignment:**

The Iran-Contra Affair  
The War on Drugs

**Locate a print resource** with information on the topic you selected by using Trinity's online library catalog, **Quest**. Describe your search, include the search terms and the type of search you tried. Include a full citation for the resource (**in APA format**) and its call number in the space below:

Search Terms & Type of Search:

Citation & Call Number:

Did you have to refine your search at any point to find a good resource? If so, describe the changes you made and why you tried them.

Find the book in the library. You don't have to read it, but take a look at the table of contents, a few pages of text, the bibliography or index (if there is one). Would this be a book you would consider citing in a research paper? Why or Why not?

Now, try to **find peer-reviewed article** on your topic using one of the **databases** available on the library's website. Try one of the databases we looked at in class, or one that you think is appropriate for your topic.

What database did you use?

Search Terms & Type of Search:

Citation for the article you found (APA format):

Did you have to refine your search at any point to find a good peer-reviewed article? If so, describe the changes you made and why you tried them.

Perform the same search you tried in the database, **using the same terms**, but this time, use Google. Select one of the sites from the **first page of results**. Write the URL of the site below and answer the following questions:

URL:

Who is the author or group responsible for the content of the site?

What date was the site was produced or last updated?

Does the site include any citations to other materials?

Do you detect any bias or problems with the information included in the website? If so, describe the problem below.

Would you consider the website as useful as the article you found in the database? Why or Why Not?

Any questions? Is there anything you wish we had covered in the library session that we didn't talk about?