

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Introduction to the Library intro.html (4 minutes)

Hi! I'm Linda Baker, one of the librarians at the El Centro College Library.

I'm looking for information for a research project. Where should I start? Let's start at the El Centro College Library website: www.elcentrocollege.edu/library

Why? Why not start with Google? Googling the web can be a source of information but shouldn't be your only or primary source! The web offers only the "tip of the iceberg" compared to the print world!

What does that mean? Think about shopping. Would you limit yourself to shopping at 7-11 because it offers the most convenient shopping – fast and easy? 7-11 is like information shopping at Google. It's fast – its easy – but doesn't always bring back the most credible and reliable sources of information on most research topics. Anybody can and does create webpages. I like to call web searching, such as Googling, "shopping at the flea market". You'll find some gems but also junk. Check any web source against the following criteria - from the pull-down menu on the library links, click on *Tutorials*, then click on *Evaluating Web Pages*.

- Authority/credibility – are the authors named and do they provide their credentials. We included some examples to test yourself - are these credible sites or not?
- Accuracy/dated – are the sources of the statistics or data provided and is it dated?
- Corroborated in other sources
- Cited

Also, many web sources that offer credible, reliable sources of information charge you from \$3-25 for articles.

What can the Library do to help?

Our books and databases offer credible, reliable sources of information from millions of sources. The information is checked by editors – the Library pays for this credibility check. The books and databases include e-books, magazines, newspapers, pictures and even videos.

Try to use the "triangle of information" when researching:

- Books – good for basic information, history, or statistics
- Newspapers or magazines – good for currency
- Web – additional sources of information. The databases will often include links to credible, reliable websites

As an El Centro student, you have free access to the databases that the Library subscribes to, which contain all of these sources of information – 24/7!

If you are not finding what you are want, don't think that the databases don't have the information that you are looking for - let the librarians be your information shopping guides. Feel free to ASK A LIBRARIAN for help. We are available 7 days a week – from early morning until late evening.

We look forward to hearing from you – in person, over the phone or virtually through ASK A LIBRARIAN.

Happy searching!