Terrascope in the Libraries: Assignment Fall 2008

Purpose: to guide you through the steps of research; to find books and articles

Begin here: libraries.mit.edu>Help Yourself> Course pages> Fall 2008> 12.000

Find the Libraries

1. Click on the map of library locations, and be sure you can find Lindgren, Science, Barker, Rotch and Dewey (under construction). Each has books or journals your team may need. Which library is in which building?

Finding books in Libraries

2. Search Barton to find 1 or 2 books on your team’s topic. Note or email yourself the record. Click on the call number to be sure the book is IN Library. Then GO to that library, find the book, and browse the shelf near it. Give the citation of a book you found in that library. (Hint: TC and TD call numbers are good areas to browse for technical books on water, HC and HD for econ)

Find (books) and journal articles with Vera Multi-Search

3. Use Vera> Multi-searchbox> choose a category, such as Engineering. Try a search using keywords. If you get back books, scroll past these to an article you like; give a complete citation. Could you click through to the full text of the article?

Find articles with (more specific) Article Databases

4. Use Libraries course page for 12.000 (url above)>Article Databases (on Sidebar) Choose and search one database under General, and one from either Science or Policy categories Give the name of the database you used, and complete citations for two articles that look good. Indicate whether you could see full text online. Try to export cites to Refworks, or email to yourself.

5. Finally, describe this experience doing research. What strategies gave you the most success at this point? What difficulties did you have? Any questions?

Email as a Word document to gcsherra@mit.edu by Friday 19 September.
Ask 12-lib@mit.edu any questions

NOTE: Typical complete citations look like:


Include http://scitation.aip.org/journals/doc/PHTOAD-ft/vol_61/iss_4/16_1.shtml if retrieved online, and you can drop the page numbers!