

Oct 28-10:59 AM

Google returns results based on over 200 factors. One of them is a priority ranking called PageRank which is the measure of the importance of a page based on the incoming links from other pages. In short, every link to a webpage from another webpage creates the PageRank.

Anyone with access to the Internet can create a webpage. The creator can make the page look professional but fill it with all kinds of misinformation or biases.

Websites with a high PageRank (meaning they show up at the top of the result list) may contain misinformation or biases that should not be used in research. Most information that is posted on the Internet does not undergo a peer review process before it is posted.

Dec 20-12:28 PM

Ok, well then Wikipedia is supposed to be very reliable...can I use that?



Wikipedia can be a useful resource but your should always question the reliability of the information. Wikipedia is designed for quick updating and anyone with an account may change an entry even if the information is incorrect or biased. In recent years Wikipedia added its own review system, but Wikipedia entries are not subject to the same scrutiny as peer reviewed articles.

Dec 20-12:37 PM

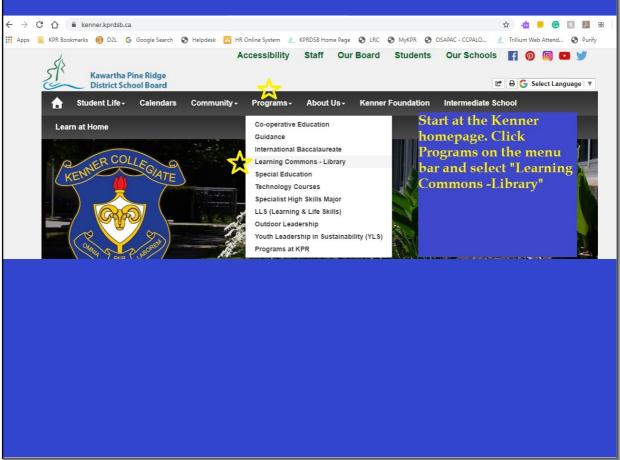
Often times, Wikipedia can be useful in gaining a general understanding on a topic or finding dates, names, places, etc. Many of the entries contain a bibliography that contains scholarly resources. Although Wikipedia itself it not a reliable resource, it may lead you to a source of the information that is reliable. When you use Wikipedia, we strongly encourage you to track down the original source to verify the information.

In many cases professors will require that students utilize articles from "peer-reviewed" journals. Sometimes the phrases "refereed journals" or "scholarly journals" are used to describe the same type of journals.

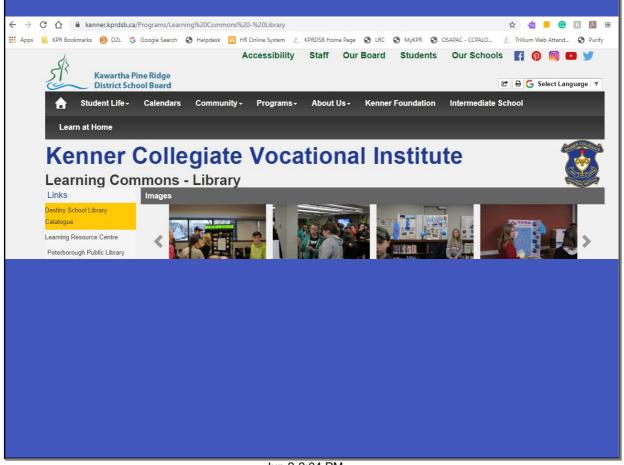
But what are peer-reviewed (or refereed or scholarly) journal articles, and why do faculty require their use?

Jun 2-11:24 AM

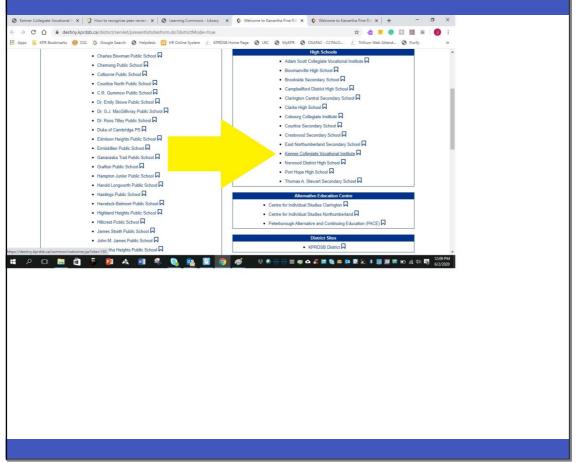
Peer-reviewed (refereed or scholarly) journals - Articles are written by experts and are reviewed by several other experts in the field before the article is published in the journal in order to ensure the article's quality. (The article is more likely to be scientifically valid, reach reasonable conclusions, etc.) In most cases the reviewers do not know who the author of the article is, so that the article succeeds or fails on its own merit, not the reputation of the expert.



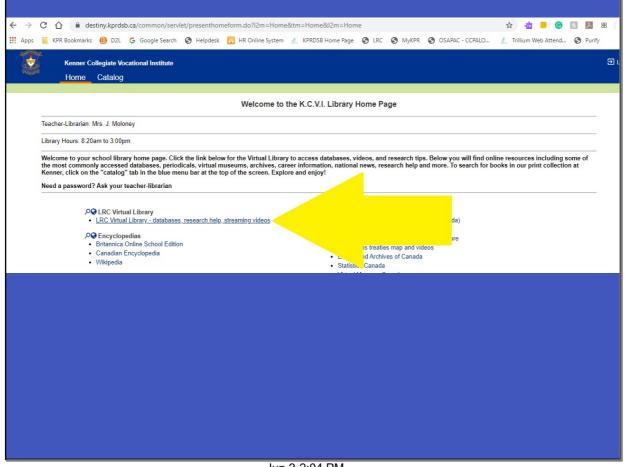
Jun 2-12:03 PM



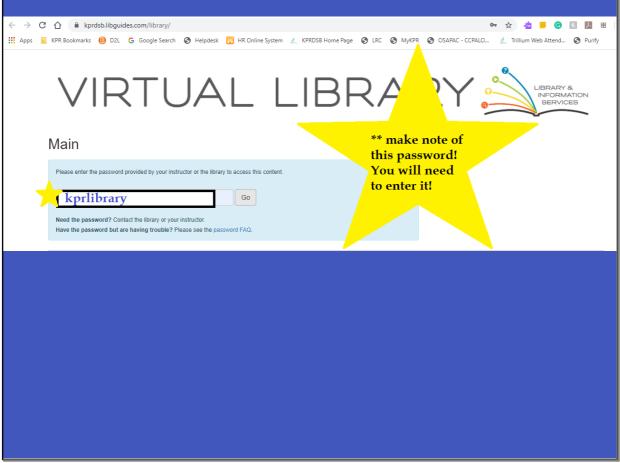
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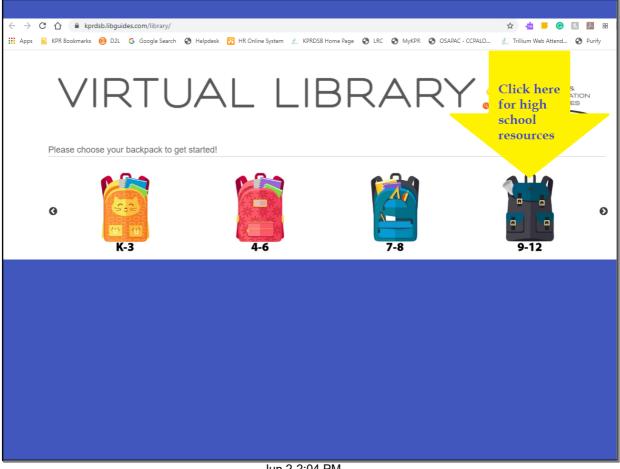
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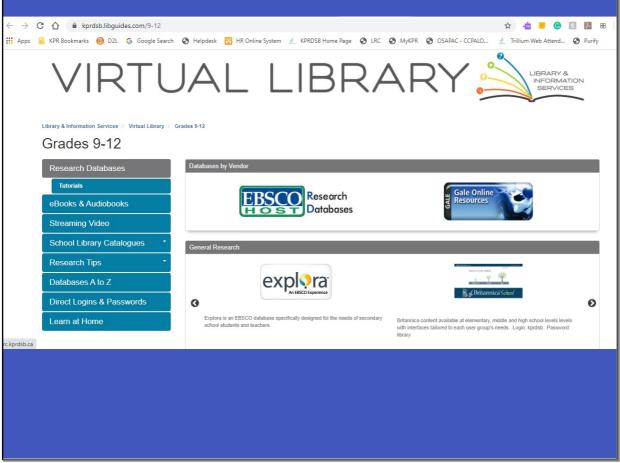
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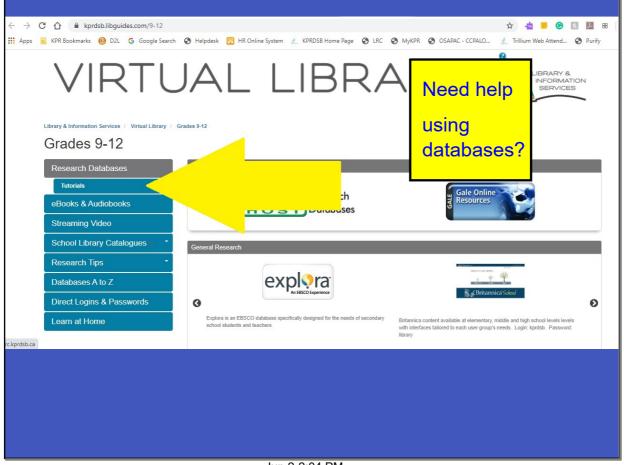
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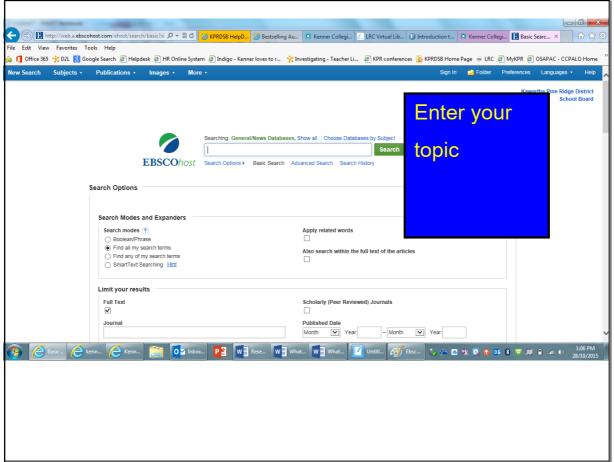
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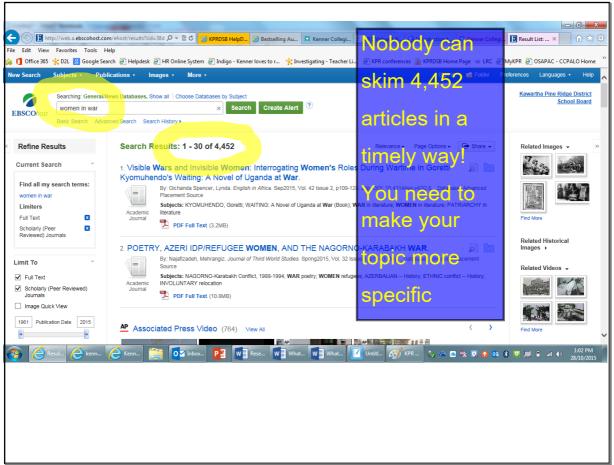
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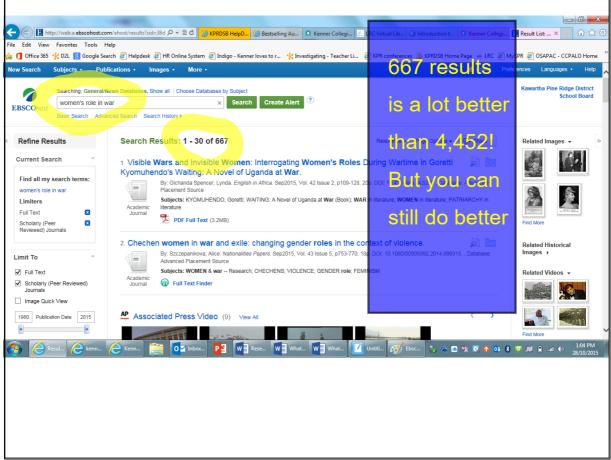
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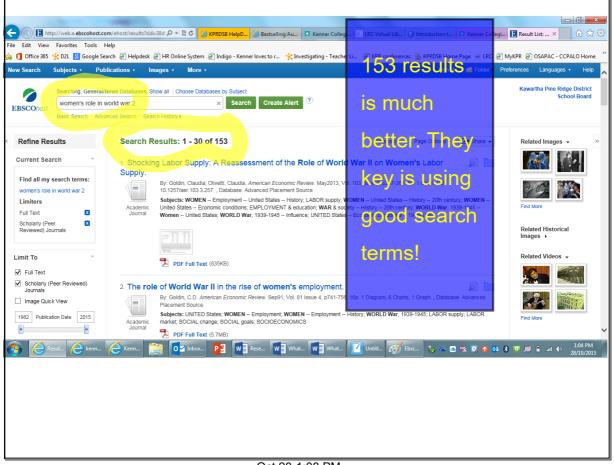
Oct 28-1:05 PM



Oct 28-1:08 PM



Oct 28-1:08 PM



Oct 28-1:08 PM

This is where the hard work happens. Brainstorm good search terms (not too broad and not too narrow) and then skim and scan the articles that the database provides.

Articles that appear to be on topic for your paper can be printed, saved or emailed.

Make sure you keep track of all the sources you use. They will be imperative to create a complete citation list.

Jun 2-2:27 PM

There is no excuse for not creating a perfectly cited paper.

With free online citation tools like "Knight cite" (link found on the Kenner destiny page), Easybib or Bibme, creating correctly formatted citations in APA, MLA or Chicago style is easy if you keep track of the sources you acess - as you access them!

For more assistance with citations - see the links on Kenner's library web page.