CRIM4100W – Searching for Scholarly Articles

What topic will you be researching?

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Run a search in MACKsearch or Criminal Justice Abstracts with Full Text and find three scholarly, peer-reviewed articles.

ARTICLE #1

Article Title: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Author[s]: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Journal Title: __________________________________________

Publication Date: _________ Volume/Issue: _________ Pages:_______

ARTICLE #2

Article Title: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Author[s]: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Journal Title: __________________________________________

Publication Date: _________ Volume/Issue: _________ Pages:_______

ARTICLE #3

Article Title: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Author[s]: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Journal Title: __________________________________________

Publication Date: _________ Volume/Issue: _________ Pages:_______

Use remaining time to continue to search for articles relevant to your topic. Practice citing an article in proper ASA format.

For additional research assistance visit:
http://libguides.merrimack.edu/CRIM4100W
Search Strategy Development Worksheet

1. Write down your search topic in the form of a question and underline the key words or phrases.
   Example: I want information on how violence on television affects children.

2. Divide these key words into concepts and list below. Use as many concept boxes as needed. List synonyms for each concept. Consider singular/plural forms, spelling variations, different word endings, etc.
   Example:

   Concept 1
   - violence
   - violent
   - aggression
   - aggressive

   Concept 2
   - television
   - tv

   Concept 3
   - children
   - child
   - kids
   - young
   - youth

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3. Construct your search strategy using Boolean operators, truncation, and parentheses.
   Example: (violence OR aggressiveness) AND (television OR tv) AND (kids OR child OR young OR youth)

   - Connect the synonyms with the Boolean operator "OR". You must use parentheses around your synonyms connected with OR. "OR" broadens your search by gathering records in which one or more of your terms appear.
   - Connect the concept sets with the Boolean operator "AND". "AND" narrows your search by requiring that at least one term from each concept set be present.
   - Use the appropriate truncation symbol (*) to search for words containing a common word root, with any number or combination of characters following that root.