Media- and Information Literacy

Figure 2: The Ecology of MIL: Notions of MIL

- University West Library, Elisabeth Näverå

Use relevant publications

- **Scientific publications**
  - Scientific articles
  - Dissertations
  - Research reports
  - Conference papers

- **Other publications**
  - course books, student theses
  - judicial documents, statistics
  - investigations, documents from authorities
  - newspaper articles, popular science
Scientific articles

- What is a Scientific article?
  - Research results
  - Academic readership
  - Reviewed by experts
Different types of articles

- Original articles
- Review articles
- Theoretical articles
Structure

- Depending on subject, method and the type of article
  - Abstract
  - Introduction
  - Method
  - Result
  - Discussion
  - References
Reviewed material

- Peer review
- Experts
- Ensuring scientific quality
Research question and subject terms

• Formulate your research question at an early stage
  o The base for your future searches
• Limit and define
  o New knowledge—edit
• Keywords!
Choose and find the subject terms

- Search method
- Synonyms
- Singular/plurals
- Spelling

Where?

- In Library Search
- Articles you've found
- In databases - subject terms
Find your way in the treasure-chest

- Thesaurus (Greek for treasure-chest)
- Subject headings
- Subject terms
  - Alfabetically
  - Hierarchy

Collect and try it out!
...how female and male foreign ministers are represented in Swedish and US daily press media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Foreign minister/s</th>
<th>Media</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female /women</td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Daily press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male /men</td>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>Mass media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Foreign department</td>
<td>Daily newspaper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender balance</td>
<td>Foreign office</td>
<td>Daily paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender difference</td>
<td>Minister of foreign affairs</td>
<td>Broadsheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender equality</td>
<td>Secretary of state</td>
<td>News</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tips - mindmap

• ...how female and male foreign ministers are represented in Swedish and US daily press media
Search method

• Phrase search "…" (two or more words)
• Truncation – the use of a star *
• Combination search
  o AND
  o OR
  o NOT
• Make combinations of your own!
What is…

- Library search tools – discovery system?
  - Search in one box
  - Reach the majority of the library resources
    - Books, articles, dvd…
  - A good place to start!
What is...

• A database?
  o Gives you the possibilities to search efficiently for
    • Published information – articles in
      – Magazines
      – Journals (Peer reviewed)
      – Newspapers
    o General (all disciplines) or discipline specific (e.g. focus on economic topics)
Why use database?

- Reliable
- Relevant
- Accessible
What is…

• A search engine?
  ○ Google
    • Search the internet and match characters and words entered by a user
Why use a search engine?

• To find information produced by governments, organizations, groups and individuals.
• Examples of reliable information you can find through a search engine include freely available statistics published by a government agency or a freely available article
• Example: Google
What is...

- **Google Scholar?**
  - Search engine for scholarly information
  - Google Scholar provides a simple way to search for scholarly literature on the web, such as peer-reviewed articles, theses, books, abstracts, citations and other scholarly literature
    - More difficult to refine searches
    - Often many result
    - Use source criticism!
When to use what?

- It depends on what type of information you are hoping to find and how you plan to use it.
  - Credible, scholarly articles, you will have more success finding relevant sources in a library database free of charge.
  - Other information e.g. Census data or organizational material, it is more efficient to find that through a search engine that guides you to the appropriate government website.
• bibliotek.hv.se