Resources Available at the Library: Health and Science

Library Home page:  
http://www.chabotcollege.edu/library/

Search Strategy Handout:  
http://tinyurl.com/yplpr5

Subject Headings

Sometimes instead of searching by keywords, you may have better luck finding materials by consulting the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH). This is important because you can sometimes get better search results. For example, articles, books, and web sites on Genetically Engineered Foods will usually be indexed under “Genetically Modified Foods.” To browse such headings, they are in the five thick red volumes on the reference shelves, on the left side of the reference desk.

- Genetic Engineering
- Genetic Recombination
- Genetics
- Biotechnology
- Animal Genetic Engineering
- Cloning
- Fertilization in vitro
- Gene Therapy
- Plant Genetic Engineering
- Transgenic Plants
- Transgenic Organisms
- Genetically Modified Foods
- Food--Biotechnology
- Stem Cells
- Embryonic Stem Cells
- Human Embryo--Research
- Fibroblasts

- Life Style
- Obesity
- Obesity in Children
- Obesity in Adolescence
- Eating Disorders
- Anorexia Nervosa
- Bulimia
- Compulsive Eating

- Sexual Behavior
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Sex (Psychology)
- Contraception
- Contraceptives
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases—Prevention
- Abortion
- Birth Control
- Condoms
- Contraceptive Drugs
- Diaphragms, Vaginal
- Oral Contraceptives
- Sexual Abstinence

- Economic Aspects
- Environmental Aspects
- Government Policy
- History
- Law and Legislation
- Moral and Ethical Aspects
- Press Coverage
- Public Opinion
- Religious Aspects
- Research
- Risk Assessment
- Social Aspects
- Statistics
- United States

Library Subscription Databases:  
http://www.chabotcollege.edu/Library/abby/dblist2.html  
—To find articles related to your topic that originally appeared in magazines, journals, and newspapers. Originally published in print form.

Mainly Magazines and Journals

EbscoHost Academic Search Elite
A multi-subject database, covering the social sciences, humanities, general science, multi-cultural studies, education, and much more!
Tutorial available at: http://tinyurl.com/58ysq

EBSCOhost Health Databases
Searches mostly health and medicine-related journals and magazines

Newsletters and Magazines

Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe
Search “Quick News Search” for articles from the last two years. For older articles, search in “General News Search.”

ProQuest Diversity Databases
Alt-PressWatch, Ethnic NewsWatch, and GenderWatch.

Library Catalog—Finding Books and Videos:  
http://tinyurl.com/8mo5z

Search the library catalog for books related to a topic of your interest. Select a topic and create a search statement. Find a book and then its call number.

Searching the Catalog:  Make sure words or phrase is selected underneath Search For and narrow your search down to Chabot College if you only want to find books available at Chabot. Combine different terms such as: genetic engineering and government policy. Enter your terms with AND in between and then click on Search

See Your Search Strategy for more information on phrasing a search statement.

![Library Catalog Search Screenshot]
Pamphlet Files—At the Library, we have several filing cabinets of articles and documents to many topics. Use the Card catalog that rests on TOP of the filing cabinet to find your topic. You can check out up to five articles/pamphlets.

Reference/Statistical Sources (Books, Databases and Web sites. Look also at Resources by Subject and Reference Sources Online from the Library Home page)

10,000 Ideas for Term Papers, Projects, Reports and Speeches
CQ Researcher Index is at the reference desk.
Facts.com Issues & Controversies
Library Handout on Genetic Engineering
Library Handout on Human Sexuality
Statistical Abstract of the United States
Also at: http://tinyurl.com/2zmcvr

Encyclopedia of Associations
McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology
Notable 20th Century Scientists
American Men and Women of Science
History of Astronomy: An Encyclopedia
Encyclopedia of Bioethics
Encyclopedia of Evolution
Grzimek’s Animal Life Encyclopedia
Encyclopedia of Human Biology
Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine
Health Reference Series
Human Diseases and Conditions
Library in a Book: Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering
Library in a Book: Reproductive Rights and Technology
Library in a Book: Physician-Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia
Library in a Book: Patients’ Rights in the Age of Managed Health Care
Continuum International Encyclopedia of Sexuality
Encyclopedia of Global Change
Public WWW Sites Selected by Librarians

Web Resources
Use Web search engines (such as Google) last for your research, and if you do, be prepared to evaluate web sites with a very skeptical eye. Anybody can put anything on the web, and if you do not pay attention, you could be referring to very questionable or misinformed sites. For example, take a look at this web site that claims to be a legitimate site on human cloning at http://www.d-b.net/dti/ (It’s absolutely fake!) The Library has an effective web evaluation checklist available at:
http://www.chabotcollege.edu/Library/abby/evaluation.html


Public WWW Sites Selected by Librarians http://tinyurl.com/35nps8
Searches sites selected by Chabot Librarians, deemed suitable for research. Search here first for Public World Wide Web sites. Also search these sites listed below:

Resources by Subject
http://www.chabotcollege.edu/Library/subjectindex/

Librarians’ Internet Index
http://lii.org

Academic Info
http://www.academicinfo.net/table.html

INFOMINE
http://infomine.ucr.edu/

Scout Report Archives
http://scout.wisc.edu/Archives/

Virtual Learning Resources Center
http://www.virtualrc.com/
Recognizing Sites by Domain

It is important to understand that when you are evaluating and selecting web sites that you recognize the type of sites you find from the Web. When you use the search engine, Public WWW Sites Selected by Librarians, you are actually finding about 95% of the time, sites that should be suitable for your research needs. When searching Google, or Google limited by domain and file type, you still need to do further evaluation and you SHOULD have the Web Evaluation Checklist in hand. Below are what you can find from such sites.

.gov Sites come from different departments and entitles of the United States. State government sites may have a .us domain, followed by its state, instead. They contain reliable information, usually. Government institutions have the responsibility to provide accurate, detailed information, and reliability is high. That does not always mean that these sites are 100% free of political viewpoint or politics, even if done more neutrally, however-- but such effects are usually minor and information is usually presented objectively. **Note:** Some information could be removed or not posted these days due to national security reasons, and sometimes materials could be removed because a previous president's/governor's policies do not gel with the current ones. Currently, there’s been criticism on what’s been removed or highlighted as more reliable on hot topic issues such as Stem Cell Research and Human Reproductive and Sexual Health. You should probably also look at a reliable non-profit site (a .org) or an educational site (.edu) rather than relying JUST on government sites. **Guarantee of quality: high, most of the time.**

.edu Sites from educational institutions, usually colleges and universities. Often contains in-depth research projects, instructional materials from professors, and projects provided by academic departments. Keep your eyes open for college students' web sites and personal pages, however, as there is no criteria for their information to be on the Web, and unless students demonstrate competent research on their web sites, do not consider such pages. Student web pages usually have a directory/folder in the web address that resembles a username, usually followed by a tilde (~):

www.berkeley.edu/~pbailey/factsoncloning.html (The institution may be UC Berkeley, but later a username follows, revealing a student's web page. The "facts" on cloning could be presented by a freshman student who put the assignment together in haste, and did not use reliable sources for his page, which he may have not even included). Occasionally, a non-profit organization may have a .edu domain, especially if it is also part of an educational institution (example: the Hoover Institute of Stanford University is probably more like a non-profit). **Guarantee of quality: high if there is no username is present.** If a username is present, especially with a tilde, quality is LOW

.org Sites from nonprofit organizations. Some nonprofit organizations can be research institutions similar to an educational one. For example, the non-partisan Rand organization has a world-wide reputation for its excellent research and its reports are sometimes considered more authoritative than even government reports. However, some nonprofit organizations often are strongly opinionated, as well. In general, unless you know something about the institution, do not consider a .org site to be a place to get an objective overview but to find research-oriented data that supports an opinion, cause, or claim. **Guarantee of quality: medium, overall.** High, if it is a reputable, non-political non-profit. Some non-profit organizations do not back up their opinions or causes well on their web sites, but may have print resources that do. Some obscure ones may not do a good job backing their claims at all. Rely on the reputation of the institution, and consider looking it up in the Encyclopedia of Associations (listed above under Reference) for more information. Remember that politically charged sites exist to persuade you, almost to the effect of "selling" you ideas or points of views.

.com Unless you pick up a .com site from the Public WWW Sites Selected by Librarians search engine or the academic subject directories listed above, be prepared to not really find information, but more of a commercial, as that is what .com stands for: commercial. Not only do such sites often provide a lot of ads, either in the forms of banner advertising, pop-up ads, or "sponsored links," but such sites are often also selling a product or service. Some information or dictionaries these sites contain could be actually limited, trivial, or even distorted as it could be convincing you to buy their product or services. Some information sites such as newspapers and news stations (such as cnn.com) can still be good-- though sometimes not all news/information content is available or you need to "register" to use the sites (read that as inviting junk E-mail), and sometimes you may be asked to pay for access to an article or other information resource. With the resources the Library has available online, you do not have to spend money on web services-- a lot of the same information is available in Library subscription databases. **Guarantee of quality:** Depends on reputation of the institution, but in most cases, assume the site exists mainly to sell you a product or service. Could be your biggest "waste of time." A site's purpose to sell you something is not always obvious, at first.