

Databases

A database is a place, usually online, where a lot of information is stored. As previously discussed, you can gain access to databases through the CityTech library, and find sources using the search functions. However, not all information is located in the same database, so you will have to decide which database(s) are right for your research.

Pro-Tip: Using Google for a college research paper is almost always a waste of time. You will come up with many search results that are useless, not appropriate for a college paper, and/or that require payment before reading. Skip Google and go right to the CityTech library databases.

For your ENG 1101 Research Project, these are the recommended databases:

1. Academic Search Complete (EBSCO)

- a general database
- gives a wide assortment of newspaper, magazine, and scholarly journal articles
- very large, be sure to use advanced search options

2. Opposing Viewpoints in Context (Gale)

- a database that focuses on current, social issues
- gives a wide assortment of newspaper, magazine, online news sources, and scholarly journal articles, as well as podcasts, radio broadcasts, statistics, and video sources
- results grouped by type of source
- DO NOT USE sources listed as “Viewpoints” or “Featured Viewpoints,” these are bad sources because they are summaries of a lot of different sources, given with bias, and without proper citation

3. The New York Times, Digital

- a database of *New York Times* articles, a daily newspaper with a very good reputation
- you will need to register for a free account with your CityTech email address to access
- there are a lot of opinion-based pieces in this database, be sure to check if the source is a news reporting article or some kind of opinion piece

4. Wall Street Journal Digital

- a database of *Wall Street Journal* articles, a daily financially-focused newspaper with a very good reputation
- you will need to register for a free account with your CityTech email address to access
- there are a lot of opinion-based pieces in this database, be sure to check if the source is a news reporting article or some kind of opinion piece

Pro-Tip: Once you have located sources in the databases it is VERY IMPORTANT to keep a record of all the sources you use. The easiest way to do this is to email yourself a copy of EVERY source you read, use, or may use in the future. It can be difficult to find a source a second time, and if you don't know where a piece of information comes from you will not be able to use it in your paper.



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