What is EBSCO?

- **EBSCO** or **EBSCOhost** is the name of a “database” or a group of “databases.” These are collections of electronic sources to use for academic purposes. Some examples of the types of sources you can find in EBSCO databases are: academic journals, newspaper or magazine articles, ebooks, primary sources, reviews, video, audio, images, etc.

- SCF Library subscribes to 31 EBSCO databases, and in today's workshop, we will go over some of the tools that will help you perform better searches through EBSCO databases.
Why should I learn this?

• **Access:** EBSCO gives you access to thousands of scholarly journals. There are journals for many different disciplines, such as literature, history, business, education, etc. It is important to know which one(s) to use and when.
  
  * Only SCF students & faculty have access to these materials!

• **Quality:** Using scholarly articles will add credibility and quality to your research. Some college assignments require that your sources be “academic” or “scholarly" (and some times, “peer reviewed".) These databases contain scholarly materials.

• **Better searches:** There are tips & tricks that will help you find better information and find it faster. We’ll help you save time & get better results!
How do I access EBSCO?

**Webpage:** Our EBSCO databases can be accessed through our homepage, [www.scf.edu/library](http://www.scf.edu/library).

- Click on the tab that says “Databases” and select “SCF Databases” from the drop down menu.

- **Log in:** You will be using your G# for the borrower ID and the last four digits of your G# as the PIN.
What EBSCO Databases should I use?

It depends on your topic and discipline. Some examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Search Complete</td>
<td>Cross disciplinary: Great for most topics!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Architecture Source</td>
<td>Photography, folk art, architecture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Source Complete</td>
<td>Business, marketing, accounting, finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINAHL Complete</td>
<td>Nursing, health professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GreenFILE</td>
<td>Environmental topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History Reference Center</td>
<td>History. Reference books, historical documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literary Reference Center Plus</td>
<td>Literature (novels, drama, poetry criticism)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How to search effectively and efficiently

1. **Define your search:** Using keywords.
2. **Use helpful database tools:**
   - Basic or advanced search.
   - Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT.)
   - “Full text” and “peer reviewed” options.
   - Narrowing down results.
3. **Choose databases:** Using multiple databases at once.
4. **Use the citation tool** (disclaimer = corrections might be needed!)
1. Define your search

- Prepare a list of keywords for your topic:
  Ex: fast food, obesity, overweight, junk food, diet, children, ...

- Find out the preferred terms for this database (hint: “Subjects”):
  Ex: “Convenience foods” “fast food restaurants” “food habits”

- Use quotation marks for multi-word terms:
  Ex: “fast food addiction” “consumer attitudes”
2. Use database tools

Basic Search

Advanced Search

More boxes to combine keywords

More options to customize
Boolean Operators

The Boolean search operators are: and, or and not.

- **AND** narrows down the results
- **OR** broadens the results
- **NOT** excludes items

Each result contains all search terms.

Each result contains at least one search term.

Results do not contain the specified terms.

The search engine and lung finds items that contain both heart and lung.

The search engine or lung finds items that contain either heart or items that contain lung.

The search engine not lung finds items that contain heart but do not contain lung.
Special options

- Full text
- Peer-reviewed
Narrow down the results

- Full Text
- Peer reviewed
- Date
- Subject
3. Choose databases

• Search more than one database at the same time:
4. Use the citation tool

• IMPORTANT! Citations generated by databases are not always correct!
• Do not COPY+PASTE Instead, COPY+PASTE+CORRECT
Always cite your sources

"PLAGIARISM is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar and/or writer-professional or student-without proper credit.

Expulsion, suspension, or any lesser penalty may be imposed for plagiarism."

(From SCF Catalog – Emphasis added.)
Let’s Practice!

• **Option 1:**
  If you have an assignment that requires a scholarly source, let’s do it now!

• **Option 2:**
  Find the full text of a scholarly article on the impact of fast food consumption in children, applying any of the tools shown to you in this workshop.