

3.093 Group 1
Card Sorting exercise

Prevalent Themes (should be in all modules, not in a dedicated module)

- Inverted pyramid concept – broad to narrow when doing research
- Evaluating information
- Checking more than one source to corroborate information

Scientific Communication (rank 4-5)

- Publication cycle
- Publication cycle w/ scientific research
- Invisible college
- The process a scientific paper goes through
- plagiarism or fraud in research/publication
- peer review
- Scientific communication - how it began
- Scientific communication - what it is
- Structure of scientific communication

Definitions/Essentials (rank 1)

- What is a database
- What is an abstract
- What is an index
- Why it's important to cite properly
- Parts of a citation

Major types of publication (rank 3)

- Difference between scholarly journals and popular magazines
- Secondary Sources – what are they and some examples
- Secondary Sources – what are they good for
- What is a primary source

Sub-genres of publication (rank 3)

- What is a review article
- Scientific Paper
- Preprints
- Technical reports
- Conference papers
- Patents
- Standards

Libraries/Resources (rank 4)

- How to get help with library research
- What subjects each library at MIT covers
- Locations of Libraries at MIT
- Subject librarians
- MIT Libraries home page

- What is Barton
- Using Barton
- RefWorks or other bibliographic management software
- How to get help citing properly

Specific databases (rank 4)

- Google
- Google Scholar
- Differences between article databases and Google
- What is Vera
- Using Vera
- Compendex/Inspec
- Chem Abs registry number
- SciFinder Scholar
- Web of Science
- Web of Science – what makes this database different
- SFX and what it does
- Alerting services – what they are, what they do

Database search tips (rank 2)

- limit to review articles
- Use Thesaurus to search
- Identifying keywords for your topic
- Searching by subject terms
- Browse for terms, authors to get correct spellings and variations
- Limiting by publication type, year, etc
- Searching by different fields if you know that information (author, title, journal)
- Boolean operators
 - o And
 - o Or
 - o not
- Truncation