

Where to Search 1:

Communication Channels

Information search

is often a process of tapping into the stored communications of other people

Stored communications might flow in the following “channels”:

- Internet (web pages, blogs, video/audio)
- Articles in magazines and newspapers
- Articles in scholarly / academic journals
- Books and chapters in books
- Theses and dissertations
- Government publications

Faculty want students to recognize,
in each discipline studied,
what constitutes
author authority and expertise
and content credibility

Communication channels differ
in the degree of prior knowledge the
VIEWERS of content (students)
must possess to be able to judge
Authority, Expertise, and Credibility

- Anybody can say what they want on a web page, blog, or *YouTube* video, irrespective of their authority, expertise or credibility
- To evaluate the quality of the content that flows through these communication channels, VIEWERS (students) must learn to recognize and apply measures of author authority and expertise and content credibility and quality

- Articles published in what are called peer-reviewed or refereed academic/scholarly journals are examined by recognized academic experts BEFORE they are published in the journal
 - These expert reviewers vouch for the authority, expertise, and credibility of article content
- It is this kind of article content that students are often asked to read and utilize in their projects

- Books published by commercial publishers are often reviewed by socially acknowledged experts before publication
 - Considerable vetting of authority, expertise, and credibility has been done before the reader sees the content
- Self published books often do NOT go through any authority / expertise / credibility review before being published
 - It is again up to the VIEWER to use their judgment as to the veracity / quality of the content