

Quick Guide :: NAVIGATING THE INFORMATION-SCAPE



Information is organic. When a significant event, like an election, a military conflict or a natural disaster occurs, published information about it migrates through different media and formats over time:



Where does your topic lie on the information-scape? Some sources may be more appropriate than others:

	I'm Looking For:	Source	Authoritative?	Search Tool(s)
Day(s)/ Hour(s)/ Minute(s)	News reports	Radio/TV broadcasts	Yes	TV, radio, web search engines
		News sites	Yes	Web search engine
		Newspapers	Yes	Newspapers & Current Events
Day(s)/ Hour(s)/ Minute(s)	Opinions and commentary, or quick facts	Microblogs (e.g. Twitter)	Sometimes	Microblog search engine (e.g. search.twitter.com)
		Blogs	Sometimes	Blog or web search engine (e.g. technorati.com)
		Wikis (e.g. Wikipedia)	Sometimes	Wiki or web search engine (e.g. wiki.com)
Day(s)/ Hour(s)/ Minute(s)	Videos	Video sites (e.g. YouTube)	Sometimes	Video or web search engine (e.g. YouTube.com)
Week(s)	Popular press or non-scholarly articles	Magazines	Yes	MasterFILE Premier LexisNexis Academic
		Trade Journals	Yes	Academic Search Complete Business Source Premier
Month(s)	Government reports/statistics	Government documents	Yes	Harvest UC Davis Catalog Government Information Guide
Month(s)	Scholarly articles	Academic journals	Yes	Library Subject Guides
Year(s)	Books	Books	Yes	Harvest UC Davis Catalog
		Textbooks	Yes	Course Reserves Catalog
		Reference sources (e.g. encyclopedias)	Yes	Harvest UC Davis Catalog