Scholarly Communication & Information Literacy
Library Instruction for upper-division students at Mines

Objectives
Students will understand that:
- Research information is part of an economy
- "you get what you pay for" (ie—"free" information is not really free, if it's of good quality; someone paid for it)
- If you develop good habits, you'll find that searching for high-quality information becomes as easy as searching Google, etc.

Students will also be able to:
- Determine how and where to best search for research information using Library tools and other search engines
- Know how to get help with finding and acquiring research information
- List at least two tools/databases used for information research in their discipline (ie, Petroleum engineering)

Part 1: Lecture, slides
- College-level research (and beyond) does NOT simply consist of doing a Google search! You need high-quality information
- What do we mean by high-quality?
  - Mostly peer-reviewed articles and books, govt. pubs, some trade publications
- Is it easy to find and access high-quality information?
  - NO—you may not be in the habit of looking in the right places
    - Some scholarly databases are not well-designed as internet tools like Google
  - YES—many scholarly tools are easy to become familiar with and are getting better
    - You can change your habits
- [analogy: is skiing easy? Some would say Yes, others would say No. Chances are that people who have been well-trained and developed good skiing habits are more likely to find skiing easy. ALSO—practice, practice, PRACTICE is important!!]
- Where does scholarly information come from? (economics of scholarly communication)
  - Slides illustrating the process of production and distribution and the way it obscures the monetary aspects of scholarly communication
- How much do we pay? [try to get a few specific e-journal prices from Heather, or just have a slide illustrating our collection budget and the percentage spent on database access)]
- this explains why you might sometimes see a screen like this [image "You do not have access to this…"], or this [image: paywall], or, if you're on campus, this: [image: Arthur Lakes Library branding on database banner]
- [--mention open-access movement?]
- How do vendors justify charging so much?

- o Value-added stuff like name-reputation, indexing, controlled vocab, user features like alerts, folders, sharing, etc.
- What do we recommend?
    - o Show Petroleum research by subject page
    - o Quick demo of AAPG and Library Catalog

Part 2: Exercise
- Divide class into groups of 5-6 students with at least 2 laptops (or other devices) each.
- Distribute worksheets to students
- Each group is assigned to one type of resource (ie, peer-reviewed article, government publication, etc.)
- Each group searches in all of the databases listed on the worksheet, making note of which database(s) are better for finding this type of resource, any other obstacles or bonuses, etc.
- Re-group as a class—groups report back on what they found; students fill in worksheets; commentary from librarians and instructor

**assign type of resource, plus keywords or author names—for peer-reviewed, use PE dept faculty members

ARTHURLAKES**LIBRARY**
COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES

	Peer-reviewed article	Government Publication	News article	Book	Conference Paper	Conference Proceedings	Map
AAPG Datapages (example)	YES-- Includes many peer-rev. articles (some of which can ONLY be found here). Not easy to identify or filter/sort to just peer-rev. items, however	Includes SOME publications by government agencies (e.g. USGS maps). Cannot filter results by this type of publication.	YES Includes some industry-specific news, particularly if published in a trade magazine or newspaper. Not easy to filter by this type of publication	YES- generally only special edited volumes published by AAPG. Book chapters available to download as PDF files	YES—many conference papers and abstracts	YES--Volumes not listed separately, but their contents may be included individually. No ability to group items together by source (ie, conf. proceedings vol.)	YES—relevant maps are included in the database. You cannot filter by this type of information. Some maps are not available as full-text (check Library Catalog!)
GeoRef							
Google							
Library Catalog							
OnePetro							
Science Direct (example)	YES—almost exclusively peer-rev. articles make up this database.	NO—this is not a good source to use for government publications	SOME—news items included in peer-reviewed or industry journals appear in the database	YES—scholarly books are included in the database (may or may not be available as full-text)	SOME--Only included if part of a journal. Not a good database for conference literature	NO—see previous block for explanation of exceptions	NO—the only maps you'll see here are figures/illustrations to accompany text. Not a good place to search for maps