

Intro to Internet Search Tools Class Outline

Class Description:

Now that you've surfed the web, are you having trouble finding what you're looking for? Learn how to effectively search the web using a variety of Internet search tools such as directories and search engines.

Class Length: 2 hours

Introduction:

The Internet is growing at an enormous rate. Some estimate that there are more than 9 million web sites and more than 1 billion Internet Users worldwide. The Internet can be thought of as one gigantic library of information. The problem, however, is some of the online information has not been neatly organized into one card catalog. In order to find information or simply to browse topics there are a number of search tools you can use. This class hopes to address frustrations beginning Internet users encounter when searching for information. Topics covered include locating items in the library catalog, using search engines and directories, and applying search strategies to find relevant information.

Objectives:

- Locate library materials using *CountyCat Web*, the web version of the online catalog.
- Become familiar with *CountyCat Web* features for limiting searches and reserving library materials.
- Perform queries in search engines and learn effective strategies for obtaining more accurate search results.
- Use subject directories, phone directories, and directory of government officials.

Exercises:

1) Finding Library Materials

- Title Search
- Author Search
- Word Search and Limiting Features

2) CountyCat Features

- View Your Library Record
- Establishing a PIN
- Placing a Hold on an Item

3) Search Engines and Strategies

- What is a Search Engine?
- Single and Multiple Word Search
- Phrase Search

4) Directories

- What is a Directory?
- Subject Directories
- People Search
- Directory of Government Officials