New Library Search “Cheat Sheet” for Humanities Students

- The **new library search** interface mimics Google. It presents a single search box on the library's homepage. This simple interface can fool users into thinking that it covers all library content. It does not. The new library search is *not* a universal replacement for disciplinary abstracting and indexing (A&I) databases such as Art Abstracts; Historical Abstracts; Philosopher’s Index; and the MLA International Bibliography (or MLAIB).
  - The new library search casts the widest possible net for *full-text* Gitenstein Library holdings. Use it to find a) physically held library books; b) some online licensed content (e.g., ProQuest and Ebsco e-books; JSTOR articles; Historical NYT articles); and c) a *selection* of vetted open access resources that range from the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) to HathiTrust Digital Library.
  - Select the "Show more results" box to uncover *additional* online-only resources to which the library *does not* have access. Those resources could (in certain scenarios) be made available without cost or requested via interlibrary loan (ILL). To reiterate, the “Show more results” box reveals content in the fully combined index, which includes *many* open access (e.g., American Memory, Library of Congress) and proprietary resources not revealed by the default library search.

- **If you are looking for a book** (e.g., *Experiencing William James: Belief in a Pluralistic World*), avoid the default search because your initial results are as likely to include book reviews as the actual book. Instead, select "Books & Media" from the drop-down menu.

- The new library search continues to support **Library of Congress Subject Headings** (or LCSH). From our homepage, click Advanced Search. Select either BROWSE from the blue bar (…) or “Subject” from the first drop-down menu. When browsing, use "Name" rather than "Subject" to find works about an artist, historian (e.g., <Toynbee Arnold>), literary figure, philosopher, or any other person as a *subject*. Avoid dashes even though LCSH uses them (e.g., use <United States History> not <United States – History>). Keep in mind too that “Names” finds corporate entities (e.g., <Catholic Church Mexico>).
  - At some point soon, possibly as early as the Spring 2020 semester, browsing by “Name” will revert to a classic author browse. That is to say, to a list of authors in the system rather than a list of works about an author, historical figure, etc.

- Expand your results to include the holdings of our **partner academic libraries**: NJIT, Rowan, Stockton, and William Patterson. Click Advanced Search from the library’s homepage. Select the radio button next to "UFindNJ" before executing your search.

- **Reserves** – Search for Course Reserves by academic department, course name, course instructor (easiest), and even course ID. This search can be finicky. Try different combinations (e.g., "Course ID" "is (exact)" = <LIT 499.06> OR "contains" = <LIT 499*>).