

# PBCC LLRC TIPSHEET

Macroeconomics  
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Palm Beach Community College ♦ Library Learning Resource Center

<http://www.pbcc.edu/llrc>

## Assignment:

Write a 5-6 page paper using APA Format. Research one of the following topics, presenting both sides (PRO & CON) of the issue. You MUST have a minimum of six (6) sources from the library databases. You MUST use one of the following databases-- *Issues and Controversies* or *Opposing Viewpoints*. You may also use newspapers, periodicals, and information from non-profit organizations.

- Outsourcing of U.S. jobs and U.S. Production Overseas
- The Offshore Drilling of Oil in the FLORIDA Gulf
- North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)-10 year perspective
- The Cost of Higher Education: Public Good or Private Good?

## Beginning your Research

It is often helpful to start your research by reading “background information.” Before you commit hours of your time researching one specific aspect of a topic, try to get a **general** understanding of all the issues involved. You might find other concepts you want to explore, or additional terms to use when doing research. You might also find important dates, people or events related to your topic. Your textbook is usually an excellent place to look for background information. General and subject-specific encyclopedias present concise overviews and highlight the most important areas. Websites can give you ideas for further research, and often present information in a simplified, easy to understand way. But before using the Web as a source, please make sure the websites are credible and accurate.

## Databases

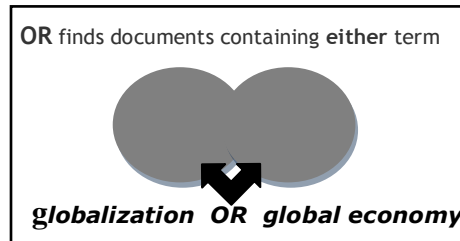
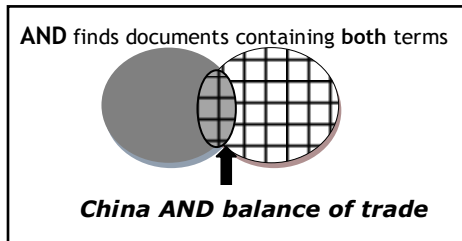
While the library subscribes to about 120 print magazines and journals, most of our periodicals are now stored and accessed through our **online subscription databases**.

## To Find an Article:

1. Go to the library’s homepage at <http://www.pbcc.edu/library>
2. Click on **Articles & Databases**
3. A new window will open with all of our databases listed. Scroll down until you come to the database of your choice. Click on “**Off Campus**” beside the database name.
4. A new window will open with a login screen.
  - As the **Borrower ID**, enter your 14 digit library card number from the back of your Panther Card. (the number starts with 24901)
  - Your **PIN** will be 4 digits long. It will either be the last 4 digits of your social security number, or 2 digits for your birth month and two for your birth year–MMYY. Example: If you were born on March 5, 1986, your PIN would be 0386.
5. Click on Logon. Another window will open with the message “You are about to leave LINCCWeb and connect to a vendor provided web site.” Click **Connect to Database**.

## Hint for Searching Databases:

Many databases match the search terms exactly as they are entered. This means that if you misspell a word, it will be searched as you spelled it. If you enter more than one word, it will be searched as a phrase. If the database program doesn't find an exact match, you won't get any results. Most database programs understand "Boolean logic." If you would like to narrow down a broad subject, add a second term and connect them with the word "and." If you aren't sure which or two similar terms to use, connect them with the word "or".



## Topic #1 Outsourcing

### Suggested Databases and Search Strategies:

- **Opposing Viewpoints**  
Search: outsourcing  
Magazine Tab-- refine search by Social Science  
News Tab--refine results to Business Section
- **Issues and Controversies**  
Search: outsourcing
- **CQ Researcher**  
Search: outsourcing
- **Academic OneFile**  
Search: U.S. overseas production      Limit: full text  
Search: offshoring and jn Business Week

### Suggested Websites

- **United States Government Accountability Office, "Offshoring of Services: An Overview of the Issues"**  
[www.gao.gov/new.items/d065.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d065.pdf)
- **Bronfenbrenne, K and Luce, S. The Changing Nature of Corporate Global Restructuring: The Impact of Production Shifts on Jobs in the U.S., China and Around the Globe.**  
[www.news.cornell.edu/releases/Oct04/jobs.outsourcing.rpt.04.pdf](http://www.news.cornell.edu/releases/Oct04/jobs.outsourcing.rpt.04.pdf).

## Topic #2 Offshore Drilling

### Suggested Databases and Search Strategies:

- **Issues and Controversies**  
Search: offshore drilling
- **Pro & Con Online**  
Search: offshore drilling      Limit: Find ALL words
- **Lexis Nexis**  
Select "News" in upper left hand corner  
Search: Oil drilling in Headline and Lead Paragraph      AND  
Florida in Headline and Lead Paragraph  
Specify date: last two years

### Suggested Websites

- Florida Senate. **Offshore Drilling: A Review of the Federal Process**  
[www.flsenate.gov/data/Publications/2007/Senate/reports/interim\\_reports/pdf/2007-118ep.pdf](http://www.flsenate.gov/data/Publications/2007/Senate/reports/interim_reports/pdf/2007-118ep.pdf)
- You Decide: Offshore Drilling  
[http://www.kqed.org/w/youdecide/offshore\\_drilling/index.html](http://www.kqed.org/w/youdecide/offshore_drilling/index.html)

### Topic #3 NAFTA

#### Suggested Databases and Search Strategies:

- **Opposing Viewpoints**  
Search: NAFTA or North American Free Trade Agreement
- **Issues & Controversies**  
Search: NAFTA or North American Free Trade Agreement  
Note: Be sure to check the results behind the Reference Tab
- **CQ Researcher**  
Search: NAFTA or North American Free Trade Agreement  
Note: Look at the report from 1989
- **Social Sciences**  
Search: NAFTA or North American Free Trade Agreement \*\* as Subject  
Limit: Full Text

#### Suggested Websites

- United States Trade Representative  
[http://www.ustr.gov/Trade\\_Agreements/Regional/NAFTA/Section\\_Index.html](http://www.ustr.gov/Trade_Agreements/Regional/NAFTA/Section_Index.html)
- Public Citizen: Global Trade Watch  
<http://www.citizen.org/trade/nafta/>

### Topic #4 Higher Education: Public Good or Private Good

#### Suggested Databases and Search Strategies:

- **Opposing Viewpoints**  
Search: education and college  
Note: Look at articles behind the Reference Tab.  
Search: education and society
- **General OneFile**  
Search: higher education and society and benefits  
Limit: Full Text
- **Education Full Text**  
Search: higher education/value \*\* as Subject  
Limit: Full Text

#### Suggested Websites

- SolutionsForOurFuture.org  
[www.solutionsforourfuture.org](http://www.solutionsforourfuture.org)
- National Education Association: higher Education: Who Benefits  
[www2.nea.org/he/heupdate/images/vol9no3.pdf](http://www2.nea.org/he/heupdate/images/vol9no3.pdf)
- College Board: Education Pays: the Benefits of Higher Education for individuals and Society  
[www.collegeboard.com/prod\\_downloads/press/cost04/EducationPays2004.pdf](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/press/cost04/EducationPays2004.pdf) -

## Relevant PBCC Databases

### **Business Full Text (Wilson)**

Provides access to outstanding sources—from The New York Times Business Section and The Wall Street Journal to magazines and scholarly journals. Find feature articles, interviews, biographical sketches, corporate profiles, surveys, reports from associations, societies, trade shows and conferences, and more.

### **Business Index ASAP (Gale)**

Provides access to academic and business journals for research on management issues, economic indicators and business theories and practices, as well as on the activities of companies and industries worldwide.

### **Business Source Complete (EBSCO)**

This business database provides full text for 1,100 scholarly business journals covering management, economics, finance, accounting, and international business.

### **Education Full Text (Wilson)**

Full-text covers a wide range of subjects such including Athletics Distance Education, Educational Technology, Elementary Education, Government Funding, Higher Education, etc

### **Issues & Controversies on File (Facts.com)**

Offers current topics research including pro/con discussions of hot issues, newspaper editorials, numerical snapshots of key topics, photos and graphics, and selected historical source documents.

### **LexisNexis Academic (LexisNexis)**

Provides access to a wide range of news, business, legal, and reference information, federal, state & international legal materials; corporate news & financial information.

### **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center (Gale)**

Provides a source for information on social issues. Access viewpoint articles, topic overviews, statistics, primary documents, links to websites, and full-text magazine and newspaper articles.

### **Social Sciences (Wilson)**

Covers such topics as technology, science, art, humanities, business, law, and social sciences

### **World News Digest**

Answers questions about events, people, issues, facts, and figures from 1940 to the present. Also delivers maps, photographs, historic documents, and special overviews of key issues, newsmakers, and events since 1940.

## Internet Sources

### **Bureau of Economic Analysis**

[www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov)

BEA collects source data, conducts research and analysis, develops and implements estimation methodologies, and disseminates statistics to the public.

### **Economic Report of the President**

[www.gpoaccess.gov/eop/index.html](http://www.gpoaccess.gov/eop/index.html)

The President's yearly report on the US economy has current and historical economic statistics.

### **Economic Statistics Briefing Room**

[www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/esbr.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/esbr.html)

Provides access to current Federal economic indicators and provides links to information produced by a number of Federal agencies.

### **Environmental Economics Metasite**

<http://sorrel.humboldt.edu/~envecon/internet.html>

Provides links to Internet sites containing information pertaining to economics. Many have a special emphasis on environmental, natural resources, and ecological economics. Links are also provided for sites related to ecology, natural resources management, and "green" business and markets.

### **FedStats**

[www.fedstats.gov](http://www.fedstats.gov)

Provides clickable maps to obtain state and local data profiles drawn from multiple federal statistical agencies, with links to the original data sources. It also offers links to the web sites of over 70 federal statistical agencies.

### **State of the Nation (Stat-USA)**

[www.stat-usa.gov/econtest.nsf](http://www.stat-usa.gov/econtest.nsf)

Revised daily, this web site provides economic news, HOT releases, and America's top 50 economic releases.

### **Statistical Resources on the Web**

[www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/stecon.html](http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/stecon.html)

Updated by the University of Michigan, this site provides links to sources of government data on the web.

### **U.S. Census Bureau**

[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

Provides demographic and economic statistics for the U.S. and some international statistics.

**U.S. Statistical Abstract**

[www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical-abstract.html](http://www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical-abstract.html)

Provides a comprehensive yearly compilation of U.S. statistics.

**WebEc WWW Resources in Economics**

[www.helsinki.fi/WebEc/WebEc.html](http://www.helsinki.fi/WebEc/WebEc.html)

WebEc is an effort to categorize free information in economics on the WWW.

**World Bank:**

[www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

Provides a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world

**World Trade Organization: International Trade Statistics**

[www.wto.org/english/res\\_e/statis\\_e/statis\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/statis_e.htm)

Provides access to a statistical database, an annual publication including detailed analysis and tables for 2006 (leading traders, trade by sector and product, regional trade, LDCs, etc.), comprehensive tariff data and links to inter-agency activities.