Library Research Methods

To find a book (circulating, reference, and/or electronic) for a preliminary examination of a topic:

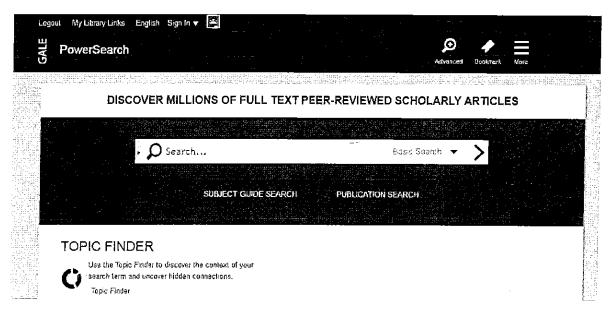
- Visit http://focus.pcsb.org and log in with your student account. Choose Library Resources and then choose Destiny - Pinellas District Search >>> click on St. Petersburg High, and then the Catalog tab >>> it helps sometimes to narrow your search for a certain Material Type >>> Using the Find field, conduct a keyword, title, author or subject search.

A keyword search will search everywhere throughout the bibliographic record. For instance, searching for <u>Malcolm X</u> within the keyword field displays 16 results

- You can add Boolean operators (i.e. AND, OR, NOT) easily in the Find field in order to combine/eliminate keywords, subjects and other concepts to your search query. Try <u>Greek AND sculpture</u>. If that is not exactly what you are looking for, you can also click Browse Subjects to find related material. You can also try a Power Search to add other keywords and delimiters to your search.

To find articles in journals, magazines, newspapers and more:

-Visit http://focus.pcsb.org, click on Library Resources>Gale Databases. Choose St. Petersburg High School. Here you will find several databases. (Gale PowerSearch, Academic OneFile, Literature Resource Center, are all good first choices.) If you are using the databases from home, the access code is pinellas.



Don't forget to cite your sources!

- The Son of Citation Machine (<u>www.citationmachine.net</u>) can be helpful, but keep in mind that it will not produce flawless citations.
- Note: Databases (e.g. Academic OneFile) will generate citations when a researcher finds an article. However, it is important to confirm that the citation is correct.