

Library Assignment

DUE: 1 week from today (November 4)

COMPONENTS: (what you will hand in or send me, in brief)

1. Complete three tutorials from the library's website: "CATQuest Overview," "Academic Search Premier," and "Databases 101 (Research Roadmap)." Each of these should take about 5 minutes, and each will offer an electronic certificate at the end of the tutorial; please enter **YOUR NAME** and **MY EMAIL ADDRESS** (kscollin@uvm.edu) in order to get credit for these tutorials!
2. Complete all questions and assignments on this sheet (some will be written, some must be sent electronically).
3. Read and summarize the article listed, according to the instructions provided.

GOALS: **1. Learn** how to use the library website and databases to find scholarly materials. **2. Locate** specific articles and books, both in the library and in its electronic holdings. **3. Create** a bibliographical entry for an article and a book in MLA format. **4. Read** an assigned scholarly article and write a summary.

DETAILED ASSIGNMENTS:

1. TUTORIALS:

- First, complete the following three online tutorials, available on the UVM library website (http://library.uvm.edu/guide_on_the_side/): CATQuest, Academic Search Premier, Databases 101. Don't forget to send me your electronic certificate for each!

2. SEARCHES AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Now, using the tools you learned about in part 1, please locate the following items:

1. As you enter the reference section on the first floor, take note of the reference librarian at the desk. This person is really important – s/he is highly trained, and can help you with all your research-related questions! Find out his/her name and write it down here (you can let them know it's a library assignment for a TAP class):
2. In the reference section, locate the *Encyclopedia of Russian and Slavic Myth and Legend* on the shelf. Open it up to the entry on Baba Yaga, skim it, and jot down one interesting new fact you learned here (be sure to put the book back where you found it!):
3. Use the library's electronic catalogue to find the entry for the book entitled *Pushkin: The Man and His Age*. Who is the author?
4. Now, go find the book on the shelf! Open it to page 81; on the facing page, you'll see a drawing by Pushkin himself. Briefly describe the picture here (or, if you're an artist, sketch it):

5. Write a bibliographical entry for the book in MLA format. This entry should be typed in a separate document, which will be turned in.

**** Sidebar on MLA (Modern Language Association) Style ****

Different disciplines have adopted different rules for bibliographies; in each case the system tries to make it easy for writers to efficiently and clearly describe their sources and for readers to identify them. We will be using the MLA format, which is standard for the humanities. Use the library's guide to MLA style to help write your entries correctly: <http://library.uvm.edu/guides/citation/>.

6. Pretend you're writing a paper on "Notes from Underground," and you want to read up on Dostoevsky's political thought. Use the electronic catalogue to search for such a source on the shelves at UVM (no need to actually find this book – just the entry). Name the author here:
7. Finally, locate a book of photographs entitled *Petersburg Perspectives*. Take a selfie with your favorite photo in the book, and put it back (in the same place!) on the shelf. Send the picture to my uvm email (note that I might show these in class; if your phone can't easily do this, let me know)!
8. Now, use the library website to locate the following journal article: "The Underground Man as Big Brother: Dostoevsky's and Orwell's Anti-Utopia." Download the article (and print it out, if you would prefer to read a hard copy).
 - a. Which database did you use to find the article?
 - b. Create a bibliographical entry for the article, and add it to the entry you wrote for the book.
9. Use the article database JSTOR to search for other academic articles on Dostoevsky and Zamyatin. Choose one of them and list the author here (you do not need to download/print this article):

**** Sidebar: how to look things up in JSTOR ****

1. Start at the library home page <http://library.uvm.edu/>
2. Click on "Articles & More"
3. Choose "JSTOR" under "Article Databases"

Searches here will give you recent scholarly journal articles and books on a number of topics in the humanities, including Russian literature. Our access to JSTOR is licensed through UVM, so your Internet connection must be through the university in order to use it, or alternatively, you can log in to the library's website, provide your student ID number, and access JSTOR through the link under "Articles & More." Links in CATQuest for electronic copies of articles may send you here.

3. SCHOLARLY ARTICLE: READING AND SUMMARY

Scholarly articles can be tricky to read and summarize, but understanding the general structure of a scholarly article can help (note that different disciplines have different standards and conventions; I'll be focusing on articles in the humanities).

Here are the typical "parts" of a scholarly article:

1. **Title** (note that article titles should be given in quotes; book titles are listed in italics)
2. **Abstract**: this is a summary of the author's research findings. It offers a preview of what will be presented in the article. While this is a common feature in the Sciences and Social Sciences, you will *not* always find one in humanities articles.

3. **Introduction:** this introduces the topic of study. It might introduce the author/work more broadly, or relate the central questions to broader themes in literary or cultural studies. There is generally a thesis statement.
4. **Review of literature:** what has already been said by other scholars about this work? What is missing from the scholarly literature? This section presents the rationale for the article's existence. It might be followed by a more precise statement of research focus (thesis).
5. **Framework, methods, theory:** is there a particular theoretical framework that the author will be using (psychoanalysis, deconstruction, etc.)?
6. **Analysis and discussion:** the body of the article; here is where you'll find the author's analysis of the text.
7. **Conclusion:** a summary of findings, questions that have been resolved, directions for further research
8. **References:** there might be a bibliography or works cited section, or this information might be contained in the footnotes or endnotes.

Using the article you found earlier ("The Underground Man as Big Brother"), please answer the following questions. Type these answers out on the other document, under your two bibliographical entries:

1. Do you think the title gives an accurate sense of what the article is about? (Y/N)
2. Summarize the author's main argument in 2-3 sentences.
3. In the "review of literature" section, what do we learn about the connection between Dostoevsky and Orwell? How has it been treated in the critical literature?
4. In the "analysis" (body) of the article, what specific connections and contrasts between the works are noted by the author? Name at least two!
5. What does the author do in the conclusion: note possible new research directions? Open or resolve any questions?
6. Did you find the article convincing and compelling? Did it grab your interest? Was it easy to follow?
7. Did the article raise any questions for you? Do you have critiques?