

# Glendale College Library Information Competencies Workshops

## Internet Essentials - Outline

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### Core Competencies:

- Develop and implement an effective search strategy appropriate for an information need by:
    - Differentiating various types of information sources (specialized encyclopedias, article databases, library catalogs, search engines, etc.) and the purpose of each.
    - Choosing and accessing appropriate information sources for the research question.
    - Identifying search terms appropriate to the research tool and the topic.
  - Locate and retrieve information by:
    - Recognizing key elements of call numbers and URLs, and using them to locate library materials and Web sites.
  - Evaluate information by:
    - Distinguishing reliable from unreliable sources of information, scholarly and popular sources, substantiated facts and point of view.
  - Assess the research strategy by:
    - Analyzing successes and failures, revising research topics, and trying different techniques and research tools as needed.
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### **Preparation:**

Get copies of the Internet Essentials handout and the two exercises.

### **Workshop Outline:**

1. Cover the first 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  pages of the handout explaining the basics of the Internet. When you get to the section on web browsers, point out specific features in the browser (Location box, Back and other buttons, Go menu, Help, etc.) In the URL section, show them how to break down a URL to understand its parts (for their first exercise).  
**10 minutes**
2. Introduce Exercise 1: Understanding URLs, stressing the objective of the exercise. This exercise might work best if you do question #1 of this exercise together as a class. You can write their ideas for each URL on the board, but don't confirm their interpretations of the URLs.  
**5 minutes**
3. Have them do question #2 of Exercise 1 by themselves and compare what they're finding with what you wrote on the board.  
**5 minutes**
4. Review, with the entire class, how accurate their interpretations from question #2 were.  
**5 minutes**

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5. Discuss the differences between Subject Directories and Search Engines (page 2 of the Internet Essentials handout). Show one or both Subject Directories when describing their features. Repeat with the Search Engines.

**15 minutes**

6. Introduce Exercise 2: Using and Comparing Subject Directories and Search Engines, stressing the objective of the exercise, and have students complete the handout.

**10 minutes**

7. Review their answers for Exercise 2. (Maybe compare the students' methodologies for searching - Ex: Did most of them use the search function within the Subject Directory or did they use the category headings to locate their topic?)

**5 minutes**

8. As a class, try another topic in both a Subject Directory and a Search Engine. Compare this new topic with students' responses to question #5.

**5 minutes**