

# Terms to Know for Library Research

Visit Us on the web: <http://bluegrass.kctcs.edu/Library.aspx>

**CITATION:** Where, when, and by whom the article was originally published; it is a bibliographic reference to identify and locate an article.

---

**FULL-TEXT:** The complete text of the journal article; may or may not include illustrations, charts, graphs. PDF Full-Text documents tend to include an article's illustrations, charts, pagination, etc. HTML Full-Text articles sometimes do not.

---

**PDF:** Portable Document Format. Refers to a file format in which formatted documents can be transferred over the Internet. PDF files are readable with Adobe Acrobat Reader, an application which can be downloaded from the Adobe Web site for free.

**JOURNAL:** A scholarly publication containing information, and often original research, written by current experts in a specialized field. Journals are often peer-reviewed by experts in the field, for quality control and accuracy. A journal article often follows a logical pattern divided into sections and usually has an extensive scholarly citation section at the end of the article.

---

**MAGAZINE:** A publication targeted at a more general audience, rather than at specialized researchers. Magazine articles often contain second hand accounts of original research, written for a broader audience.

---

**E-BOOK:** A book in digital form.

**INDEX:** Provides access to subjects and authors. May be a print or online index and may include both citation and abstract.

---

**LIBRARY DATABASE:** A collection of indexing, abstracts, and/ or full-text articles, images, and books, available and searchable by computer.

---

**PERIODICAL:** A publication issued at least twice a year at established intervals. It can include journals, magazines, newspapers.

---

**ABSTRACT:** A brief summary of the article; it can be a sentence or several paragraphs.

