EGR 120 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Introduction to Engineering

File: EGR120H10 Due date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Homework Assignment #10 (Information Literacy)**

**Reading Assignment:**

Class Notes – Presentation on Information Literacy

**Problem Assignment:**

Select a topic to use in searching for information by selecting 3 keywords.

Select one keyword from each column, but all in the same row.

* Example 1: You might pick the following 3 keywords: ***Alternative energy, Wind, Renewable***
* Example 2: You might pick the following 3 keywords: ***Battery, Lead Acid, Energy density***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Keyword #1 | Keyword #2 | Keyword #3 |
| Alternative energy | Solar  Wind  Biodiesel  Geothermal  Hydroelectric | Green  Renewable  Sustainable  Competition  Student Project |
| Robot | Autonomous  Line following  Infrared sensors  Ultrasonic sensors  Vision | Track  Obstacle  Course  Competition  Student Project |
| Battery | Lithium ion  Alkaline  Lead acid  Nickel cadmium | Rechargeable  Energy density  Competition  Student Project |
| Student competition | Civil engineering  Mechanical engineering  Electrical engineering  (select another discipline) | Renewable  Sustainable  Interdisciplinary  Environmental |
| 3D printing | ABS  PLA  Filament  Thermoplastics | Makerbot  Stratasys  Mbot  3DSystems |
| Instructor approval needed in advance: Pick three keywords on your own. Let the first keyword be the broadest topic or the main topic. | | |

Complete the attached worksheets using the topic (3 keywords) you selected above.

Download the document from the course website so that you can copy and paste information into the document.

EGR 120 – Homework #10 (Information Literacy) Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Worksheet Part 1 – Using Databases**

1. List your topic (your 3 keywords):
   1. Keyword #1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. Keyword #2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. Keyword #3: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Go to the database ***IEEE Xplore*** on TCC’s website.
   * Record the results for various searches:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Search for: | Number of search results |
| Keyword #1 |  |
| Keyword #1 and also select Journals & Magazines |  |
| Keyword #1 AND Keyword #2 |  |
| Keyword #1 NOT Keyword #2 |  |
| Keyword #1 OR Keyword #2 |  |
| Keyword #1 AND Keyword #2 AND Keyword #3 |  |

* Select an article of your choice from the last search. See if the entire article is available. Download the citation and the abstract. Copy and paste them into your document.
* Is the full article available?
* Citation:
* Abstract:

1. Go to the database ***Academic Search Complete*** on TCC’s website.

* Search using Keyword #1 AND Keyword #2 AND Keyword #3 (remove a keyword if you get no results). Also check the box to ***show only full-text articles***.
* Select an article of your choice from the search. See if the entire article is available. Download the citation and the abstract. Copy and paste them into your document.
* Is the full article available?
* Citation:
* Abstract:

1. Go to the database ***Safari Books Online*** on TCC’s website.

* Search using Keyword #1 AND Keyword #2 AND Keyword #3 (remove a keyword if you get no results).
* Select the book of your choice. List the title, author, publisher, and date.
* Title:
* Author:
* Publisher:
* Date:

EGR 120 – Homework #10 (Information Literacy) Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Worksheet Part 2 – Evaluating information from a database**

1. Evaluate the article found using ***Academic Search Complete*** (step 3 on Worksheet Part 1). Answer each of the following:
2. Authority:
   * Who is the author?
   * Who is the publisher?
   * Does the author appear to be well qualified?
3. Scope:
   * Is the article relevant to your topic?
   * Is it too specific, too general, or about right?
4. Objectivity:
   * Is the article biased? If so, what is the motivation?
5. Accuracy:
   * Does the article appear to be accurate?
   * Does the article cite other sources?
   * Does the article include a bibliography or show works cited at the end?
6. Currency:
   * What is the date of the article?
7. Based on the answers above, would this be a suitable source to cite for a college-level research assignment?

EGR 120 – Homework #10 (Information Literacy) Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Worksheet Part 3 – Evaluating information from a web site**

1. Go to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) and repeat the search used with Academic Search Complete. Be sure to use the exact same keywords and Boolean operators. For example: Keyword #1 AND Keyword #2 AND Keyword #3

* How many results were found? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Select one web site. List the URL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Evaluate the web page above. Answer each of the following:
2. Authority:

* Who is the author? (List Anonymous if it isn’t clear.)
* Who is the publisher (or what company/organization)?
* Does the author appear to be well qualified?

1. Scope:

* Is the web page relevant to your topic?
* Is it too specific, too general, or about right?

1. Objectivity:

* Is the web page biased? If so, what is the motivation? (e.g., sales)

1. Accuracy:

* Does the web page appear to be accurate?
* Does the web page cite (or link to) other sources?
* Does the web page include a bibliography or show works cited at the end?

1. Currency:

* When was the website last updated (check the bottom of the main page)?

1. Based on the answers above, would this be a suitable source to cite for a college-level research assignment?