GY 302: Crystallography and Mineralogy

Assignment 6: Poster Research Library Assignment

Preamble: The poster presentation that you will be doing at the send of the semester needs to follow the formatting guidelines that you received last week. It must also summarize the material that you consulted during the research stage of the project. Before the age of Google and Wikipedia, most students were able to use library resources reasonably effectively. Translation: students knew how to find important and relevant references concerning their subject matter. Sadly, today that skill is being lost. When students are asked to research a topic, 9 times out of 10, that consists of a visit to internet sites like Wikipedia. You should all know by now that these sites are seldom sources of refereed[1] publications. They consist of opinion pieces, blogs and in some cases, outright crap. Wikipedia is notorious for bogus information. Stay away from it. It's time to learn how to effectively use the USA library resources that your tuition/fees help support. Hence today's assignment.

Your Task: Using USA Library resources (including electronic indices), compile a list of at least 5 **refereed** publications that provide useful information about your subject mineral and make a log of your research search (see attached copy). No more than 1 of the 5 can be abstracts (e.g., refereed presentations that were made at professional meeting like AAPG, GSA, GCAGS, AIPG, SEG etc.). In addition to the list, you must attach a hard copy of all of the references that you found. If it was in the hardcover holdings of the University, photocopy it on their copiers (yes you have to pay for it). If you found the paper using an electronic search, feel free to save the paper in pdf format and print it off free on our printers in the GY student computer lab. All of these publications will be used to develop a vertical file of minerals in the student library for future use.

Recommended search engines: GeoRef, ScienceDirect, SpringerLink, and Wiley Interscience. Do **NOT** resort to Google searches to do this assignment. I **REALLY** mean this. Cite only refereed publications, i.e., those that have appeared in legitimate publications. Unless the online publication is associated with a journal (that's what the Library searches look for), it must be considered non-refereed and as such, **is not acceptable as a reference in this (or any other) assignment**.

I will provide you with help to get started on this assignment. That includes helping you to do electronic searches on the USA Library website and (if necessary), showing you how to use the USA Library. In addition, USA Reference Librarians have offered to show you how to get around their building. Even if you think you know how to use the library, I recommend that you take them up on their offer.

Due Date: See calendar and website for due dates

Search Strings: When searching for electronic publications, it is helpful to know which terms are most relevant to your study site. In addition to your mineral's name, consider adding the following search strings:

Insert mineral name	& crystallography	& economic use	& extraction	& uses
& occurrence	& origin	& reserves	& chemistry	& mines

[1] Refereed publications were reviewed and deemed quality research by experts in the field. As a general rule, these are the only publications that count as far as research is concerned.

Reference Style: Use the Chicago Reference Style (see examples below)

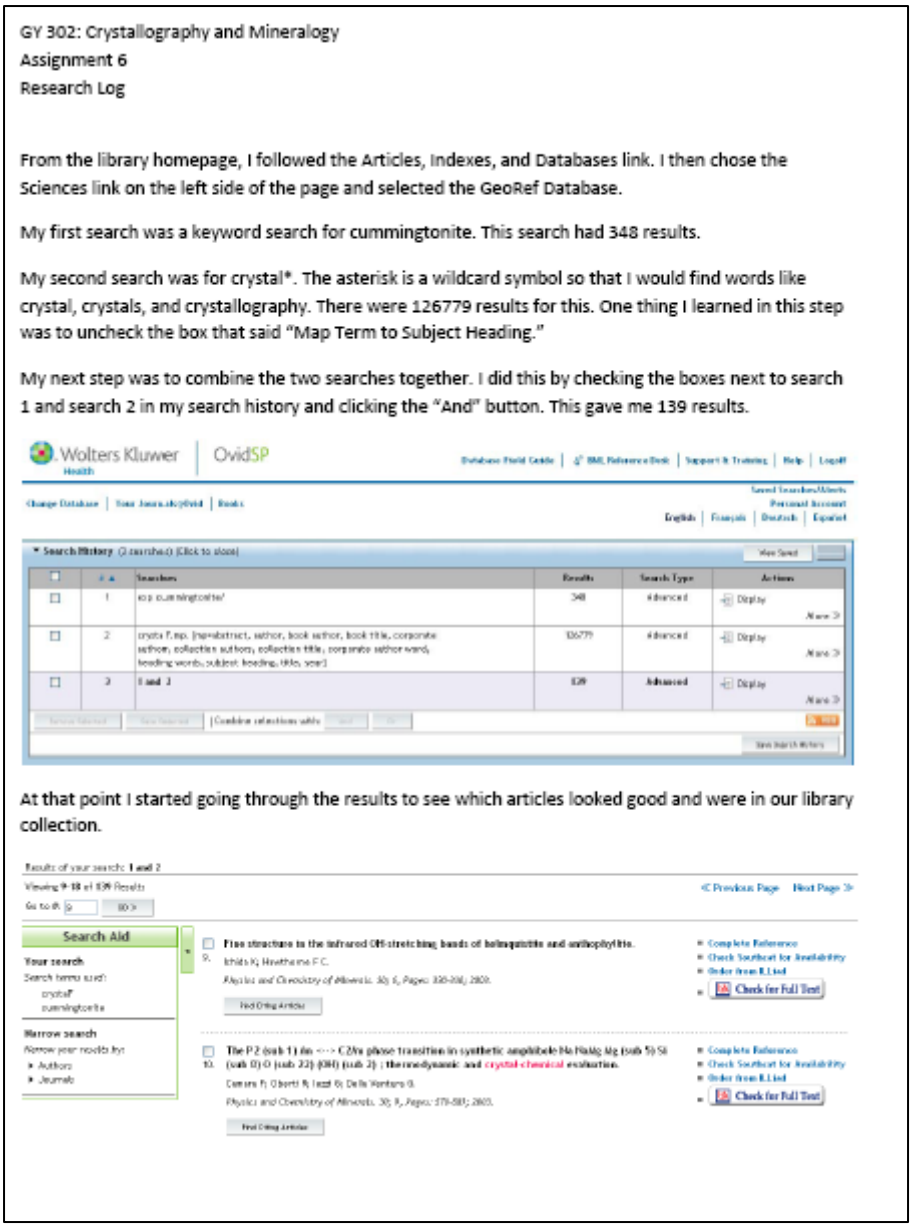
Book:

Okuda, Michael, and Denise Okuda. 1993. *Star Trek Chronology: The History of the Future*. New York: Pocket Books, 375 p.

Journal Article:

Wilcox, Rhonda V. 1991. Shifting roles and synthetic women in Star trek: The next generation. *Studies in Popular Culture* 13 (2): 53-65.

Page one of an example "research log" as provided by USA Library Ellen Wilson. Your effort need not be as comprehensive, but I still want to see evidence that you used USA resources.



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Research Log

From the library homepage, I followed the Articles, Indexes, and Databases link. I then chose the Sciences link on the left side of the page and selected the GeoRef Database.

My first search was a keyword search for cummingtonite. This search had 348 results.

My second search was for crystal*. The asterisk is a wildcard symbol so that I would find words like crystal, crystals, and crystallography. There were 126779 results for this. One thing I learned in this step was to uncheck the box that said "Map Term to Subject Heading."

My next step was to combine the two searches together. I did this by checking the boxes next to search 1 and search 2 in my search history and clicking the "And" button. This gave me 139 results.

At that point I started going through the results to see which articles looked good and were in our library collection.

Page 2 of the sample log

I found that I needed to use the "Check for Full-Text" button to see if we had the article. This opened up a new window. It took some trying to find an article we had. Once I found one that we had, I clicked the link on the page that said article.

Search criteria: Refine or alter criteria

Article: Fine structure in the infrared OH-stretching bands of holmquistite and anthophyllite.
Author: Ishida
Journal: Physics and chemistry of minerals
ISSN: 0342-1791 Date: 2003
Volume: 30 Issue: 6 **Page:** 330

Content is available via the following links

Coverage Range	Links to content		Resource
01/01/1997 - present	Article	Journal	SpringerLink Contemporary (1997 - Present)
	Article		Publisher via CrossRef

That took me to another database (SpringerLink), where I found the PDF of the article.