What Resources Do We Offer?

- Online Catalog
- Reference Books, Circulating Books, & Periodicals
- Online Databases
- Resources Beyond COM
- Bibliography Resources
- The Reference Librarian
- The Distance Education Librarian
The Online Catalog

- Also known as an “OPAC” (Online Public Access Catalog)

- A computer database containing a record of the all materials in the library collection

- Catalog accessible from anywhere in the world via the Internet
The Online Catalog - 2

- Visit: www.marin.edu/lrc
- ...or Google “College of Marin Library”
- Click on “Library Online Catalog”
- Searchable by Title, Author, Subject, or Keyword
- OPAC contains Reference Books, Circulating Materials, and Periodicals
Using the Online Catalog

- Start with a “keyword” search
- Locate a record that matches your interest
- Note the location, call number, and status
- Find the subject heading at the bottom of the record
- Click on the hyperlink to find more records in that subject
Reference Books

- Includes Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Atlases, and other similar works that are “referred to” for information.
- Generally, not meant to be read “cover to cover”
- These items do not circulate (ie, do not leave the library)
- Found in the Reference Area of the library
Circulating Books

- These are items which you can check out
- COM offers over 120,000 titles
- Organized using the Library of Congress Classification (LCC) System
- Located in the Southwest area of the library
Periodicals

- A magazine, journal, newsletter, or newspaper produced on a regular basis
- COM offers a wide selection of hard copy periodical titles
- Located in the Northeast corner of library
- Many more periodicals available electronically on COM databases
What is a Database?

See “Library Databases” Handout

- An online, subscription-only resource
- Contains high-quality articles and information from magazines, newspapers, journals, and reference books
- Accessible via the MyCom Portal
Databases vs. Googling

- Googling is quick and easy
- Unfortunately, it doesn’t always give reliable information
- Some websites are very good…but hard to find.
- Databases provide more reliable, researched information.
How To Access Databases

- Accessible via the MyCom portal
- Visit: https://mycom.marin.edu
- Enter User Name and Password
- Click on the “Library/Learning Resources” Tab
- Scroll Down to the Databases section
Some Of The More Popular Databases

- **Expanded Academic ASAP** – Access to scholarly journals, news magazines, and newspapers

- **Opposing Viewpoints** – Offers a variety of viewpoints on important social issues

- **Literature Resource Center** – Contains critical analyses of authors and their works

- **Proquest** – Provides full text articles from national newspapers
Resources Beyond COM

- Infoplease at www.infoplease.com
  Online encyclopedia, dictionary, almanac, and more
- Internet Public Library at www.ipl.org
- Wikipedia at wikipedia.com
- Marin County Public Libraries
Public Library Resources

- Join the public library in your area
- Your local public library offers access to online databases, ebooks, magazines, and reference assistance
- Visit the Marinet Catalog: http://marinet.lib.ca.us/
- Visit your library’s web page for more information on their offerings.
Bibliography Resources

See the “Bibliography Handout”

The following websites offer help creating a “works cited” page:

- **www.marin.edu/lrc/comlibguides.htm** COM study guides for citing your work
- **www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite** KnightCite is an excellent resource for creating your citations
- **owl.english.purdue.edu** Very scholarly site that covers a wide range of writing issues
The Reference Librarian

- A reference librarian is here at COM to assist you with your research
- Visit in person or contact by telephone
- Monday – Thursday from 9am to 9pm
- Friday from 9am to 4pm
- (415) 485-9475
- Email the reference librarian at: askthelibrary@marin.edu
The Distance Education Librarian

- Supports our DE students by providing remote reference services via email
- Will reply to all reference inquiries submitted between Sunday and Thursday within 24 hours
- Can answer short, factual questions, and provide guidance on research strategies and library resources
- Please visit the library’s DE webpage at: www.marin.edu/lrc/DistanceEducation.htm
Questions?

- Any Questions?
- To download an e-copy of this presentation and the handouts, please visit: www.marin.edu/lrc/DistanceEducation.htm
- Thanks for your attention
- Good luck on your assignment!