More Encyclopedias and How to Find Them

Wikipedia is an amazing crowd-sourced compilation of information. Yet, fairly or not, Wikipedia continues to be scorned and reviled by the majority of the academic world (your professors).

GVRL – Gale Virtual Reference Library – a library of hundreds of online encyclopedias – is one alternative to Wikipedia.

However, the Rod Library has thousands of other “professor approved” encyclopedias to choose from.

Here is how to find them:

1. go the Rod Library website (google: UNI Library)
2. click on the Advanced Search option under OneSearch.
3. click on the Books/Media option
4. in the first blank type: encyclopedias
5. then change the drop-down menu (to the left of the blank containing “encyclopedias”) from Keyword to Subject
6. type your topic in the second blank
   you can change the drop-down menu for this second blank to Subject or even Title
7. click on search

* Important – the word encyclopedias must be plural

** For more on Subject search see the “What You Must Know” guide – Week 3 – Subject Searching

When you simply search for encyclopedias using the method above, you’ll find over two thousand encyclopedias to choose from. This is too much!

To find encyclopedias on a topic of your choice you should type your topic into the second blank - beneath the blank where you typed encyclopedias. If you experiment with the drop-down menu in front of your topic (perhaps trying either Keyword or Title or Subject) you may get different and more focused results.
Example: Finding Baseball Encyclopedias

Step 1.

Step 2.

Step 3.
Step 4.

Or perhaps ...

Or perhaps ...

Or perhaps ...