Finding Authoritative Information

Academic Encyclopedias

**Authority:**
- Authors are scholars
- Edited by professionals

**Useful for:**
- Background
- Overviews
- Getting Started

**Find them:**
- In Print - Reference Collection
- Online - Library Databases

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Academic Journals

**Authority:**
- Authors are scholars
- Edited by professionals

**Useful for:**
- In-depth research
- Primary research

**Find them:**
- Online – Library Databases
- Google scholar

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Books and e-Books

**Authority:**
- Look for author’s credentials
- Look for publisher’s credentials

**Useful for:**
- In-depth info
- Historical perspective
- Leads to other sources

**Find them:**
- Library Book Catalog
- Summit Book Catalog
- Google Books

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Popular Magazines

**Authority:**
- Look for author’s credentials
- Edited by professionals
- Possibly influenced by ads

**Useful for:**
- Current events
- Popular opinion

**Find them:**
- Online – Library Databases
- Newsstands

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Web Sites

**Authority:**
- Authors must be verified
- Sites may or may not be edited

**Useful for:**
- Background
- Overviews
- Getting started
- links to other sources

**Find them:**
- Search engines
- Subject directories
- Recommendations

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People

**Authority:**
- Must be verified

**Useful for:**
- Contemporary views
- Personal/expert opinions
- Primary accounts

**Find them:**
- Recommendations
- Online organizations
- Online social networks
- Yellow Pages
- Blogs