Search Tips for the Applied Technology and STEM Fields

Connection information for the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL)

- www.avl.lib.al.us -- You do not need a user ID or Password. If you are asked to provide one, please call, contact "ask a librarian," or go to your nearest library, and they can issue you an ID and Password.

Research Tips for Articles within the Alabama Virtual Library

- Select *College & University* the red square on the main page. This page provides a link to *All* or a selection of links to specific search topics. From the All section, For **research,** you should select **individual links to the following:** *Academic Search Premier, Book Collection: Nonfiction, Britannica Academic, Business Insights Essentials, Business Source Premier, EBSCOhost Search, Gale eBooks, Gale General OneFile, Gale OneFile Business, Gale OneFile: Culinary Arts, Gale OneFile: Gardening and Horticulture, Gale OneFile: Home Improvement, Gale One File: Hospitality and Tourism, Gale Power Search, General OneFile: Vocations and Careers, GreenFile, Image Collection via MasterFILE Premier, MAS Ultra School Edition, Regional Business News and, Vocational and Career Collection.*

Select College & University Discovery Search

- Enter the topic to research. A varying amount of information will be displayed. Limiters will need to be applied to access items relevant to your research needs.
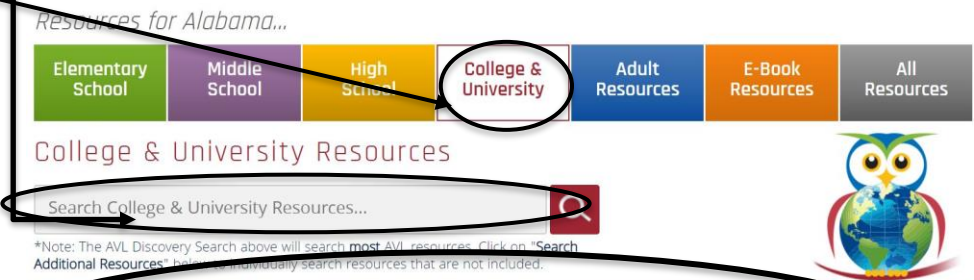
Specific Database topic search

- Search from any database in this collection that pertains to your topic of interest. These links provide access to the information you need. An example of a resource for research on collision repair would be *MAS Ultra School Edition.* An example of a resource for research on computer numerical control (CNC) would be *Gale General OneFile.*
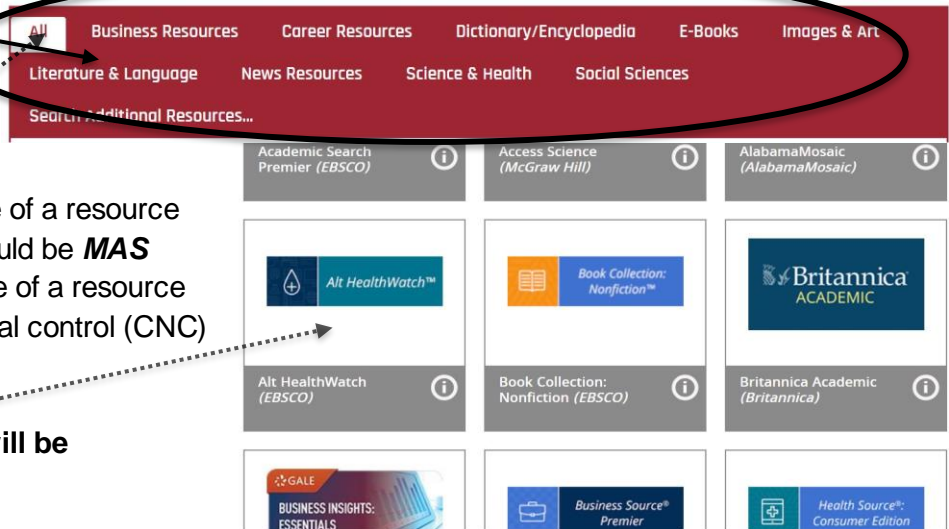
If *All* is selected, all of the databases will be displayed.

Hints for deeper research

- **Remember, statistics are always important when discussing a particular point in a paper.**
- **Use truncation and Boolean search terms to attain a more specific search. Truncation is a searching technique used in databases in which a symbol replaces a word ending. Frequently used truncation symbols include the asterisk (*), a question mark (?) or a dollar sign ($). Quotations marks may be used to group words together. An example is "women's rights." Boolean is the combination of words using, AND, NOT and OR. An example would be News not Paper or Magazine.**
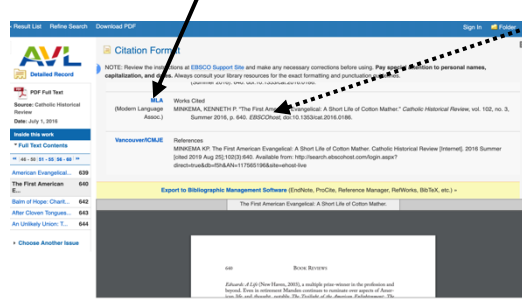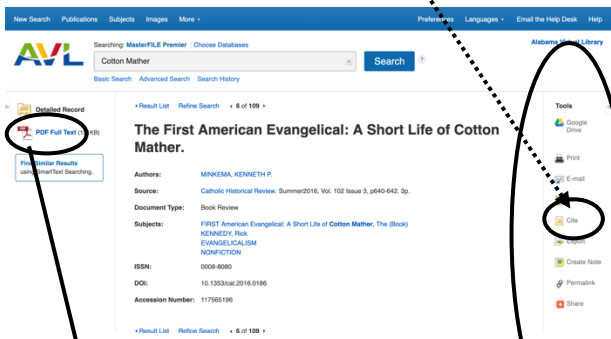
Citation

- Options for *MasterFile Premier(EBSCO).*

From this page, select cite.

Select the type of citation format needed; an example would be MLA.

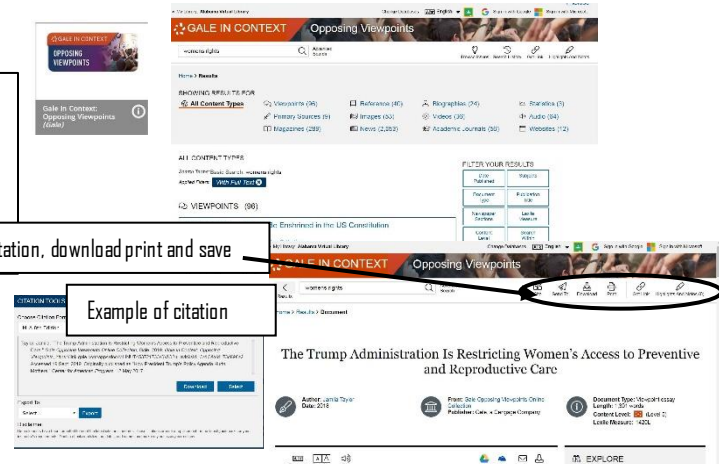Download or copy and paste the correct citation format to your document.

Print or view PDF for full-text information.

Saving research
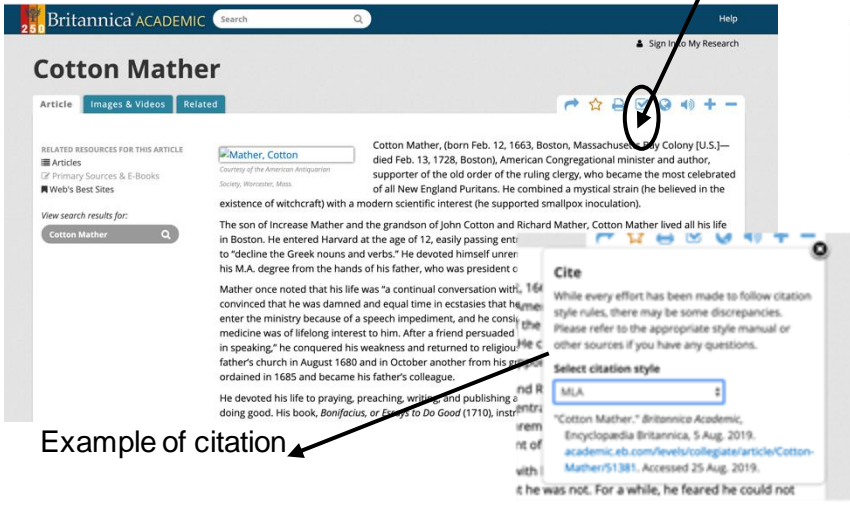**EBSCO products**- individual items can be saved in Google Drive or various other formats.

- Options for **Gale products**

Gale In Context: Opposing viewpoints

Tool bar for citation, download print and save

Example of citation

Literary Resource Center
It is possible to save individual items in a Google or Microsoft account. This page also allows for developing citation information.
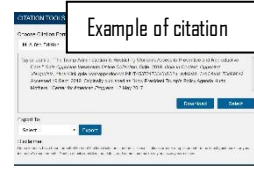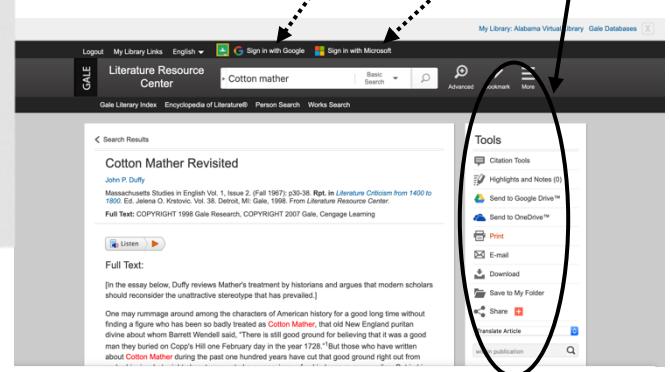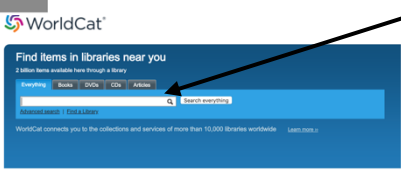
- Options for *Britannica Academic.*
From this page, select the citation tool.
From this page, select type of citation format.

Example of citation

- **WorldCat**
If a specific source is needed, search *WorldCat;* this database is within **All Resources.** Type the title of the item needed in the space provided.

The Wallace State Library is open Monday-Thursday 7:30 am – 9:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Librarians Lisa Hullett and Renee Marty are located on the second floor of the library. Contact information: lisa.hullett@wallacestate.edu or renee.marty@wallacestate.edu.