

Research 101: Using Destiny

COHS Library Catalog (Destiny)

COHS Library uses a computerized system to check books in and out and locate materials in the library. This system is called Destiny!

Every book cataloged for COHS Library is in the automated system. When you search using destiny, your results will list **all** the books in the system that you are searching for **and** will tell you if these copies are available for check-out.

Objectives:



1. Develop your research topic.
2. Identify keywords and phrases to begin your research.
3. Use Destiny to find **books** about a topic you need to research.

Directions: Answer the following questions:

Think about the topic you want to learn more about. Do your best to summarize it into a question (or simply state your thesis):

Example: World War II; French Resistance → What impact did the French Resistance have on German war efforts during World War II?

Name:

What keywords or phrases do you think are most important in your summary above? What similar words can you use that may help you find relevant information? Try to find at least 3. Link words that you think should be linked.

Example: What impact did the French Resistance have on German war efforts during World War II?

- **World War II** AND France
- **French resistance** AND World War II
- Nazi advance AND France

Now you try:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Great! Now that you have identified the most important words in your research statement, it is time to start searching. Enter one or more of your keywords into destiny. What are your results? Keep in mind that you are searching for an answer to your question or statement. You are a detective, and you are looking for *proof*!

Practice Exercise 1

Keyword/ phrase used: _____

I found _____ books about using this word/combination.

Name:

Now, provide some information from 2 of the books you are planning on using:

Book 1

Title:

Author:

Call # (Dewey Decimal Number):

Publication Date:

Book 2

Title:

Author:

Call # (Dewey Decimal Number):

Publication Date:

Great! You've found a couple of books that you can use for your research paper. But what if you need more? Let's practice our exercise again, but using different search terms.

Keyword/ phrase used: _____

I found _____ books about using this word/combination.

Book 1

Title:

Author:

Call # (Dewey Decimal Number):

Publication Date:

Name:

Book 2

Title:

Author:

Call # (Dewey Decimal Number):

Publication Date:

By looking at the call numbers, I know these books would be found in the following sections (circle one or more):

Fiction

Non-Fiction

Biography

Story Collection

Paperback

Plays

Shakespeare

Reference