**Tips for Researching Articles Online**

**Before** beginning to search for sources online, answer the following questions:

1. What do you hope to investigate—and what questions do you hope to answer in this definition paper?
2. What kind of expert would be able to provide good answers to my questions? Are there particular interest groups who have a major stake in answering this question?
3. How recent must my articles be in order to be relevant to me? Are there factors that might make some information outdated?
4. What words or phrases should be particularly useful in my initial searching?

**When** searching online for articles and other sources, know this:

1. The url is very important. Look for (.edu) first. (.org) may present a particular bias based on its agenda, and (.com) is primarily a moneymaking site.
2. Use a **Google Advanced Search**. That way you can select the words and phrases that match the type of article you are looking for. **Google Scholar** also helps you do this.
3. When you find an article, make sure the author has credentials, qualifications, and connections to your subject. Are his/her works cited?