College Level Research

● Using Quicksearch,
● Databases specific to your major,
● Getting help.
Example- Quick Search on the Library’s homepage, searching for PTSD
In this example, the first result is a “research starter” article— if you do not see a “research starter” article, try using fewer keywords.
Research starter articles are like Wikipedia articles—good for getting synonyms and an overview. Research Starter articles are BETTER than Wikipedia though, in that they have been fact checked during the publishing process, and are more appropriate to use in academic research.
Going back to the results- use the tools in the left hand column to narrow results-
For example “source type” helps you narrow to either popular sources, like newspapers or magazines or to more academic or scholarly sources
Quick Search is a great starting place, but it does not search all of the library’s 100+ databases- to find databases for your major, from the library’s homepage use the articles and databases link in the left column- then databases by SUBJECT to find your databases specific to your major.
Finally, doing college level research can be complex. Many students feel they have to be totally stuck before asking for help. This is not true!
Librarians are here to help you via Chat, phone, text, email, or you can make a one-on-one appointment for in-person or online help.

One of the most important research skills you can develop is to ask for help!