

# Search Tips for College and University

## Connection information for the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL)

- [www.avl.lib.al.us](http://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.

### 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 a literary analysis paper would be **Gale Literature: Twayne's Author Series**; an example of a resource for an argumentative paper would be **Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints**.

If *All* is selected all of the database interfaces will be shown.

### Hints for deeper research

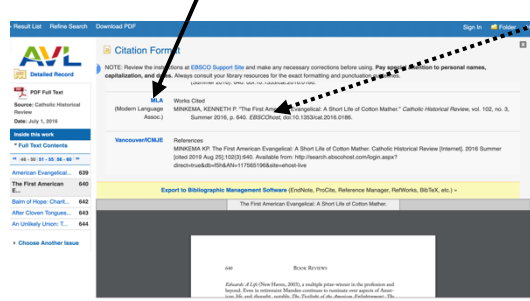
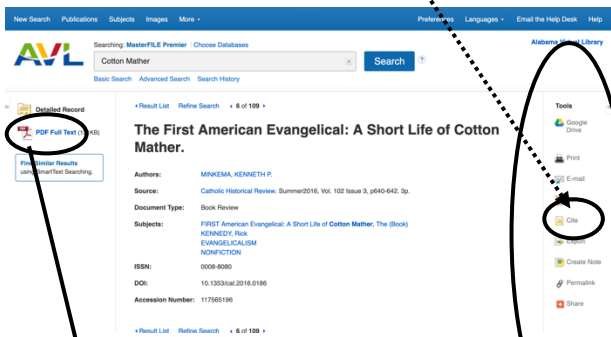
- Remember statistics are always important when discussing a particular point in a paper.
- Use truncation and Boolean search terms to attain a more specific search. Truncation is a searching technique used in databases in which a symbol replaces a word ending. Frequently used truncation symbols include 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.

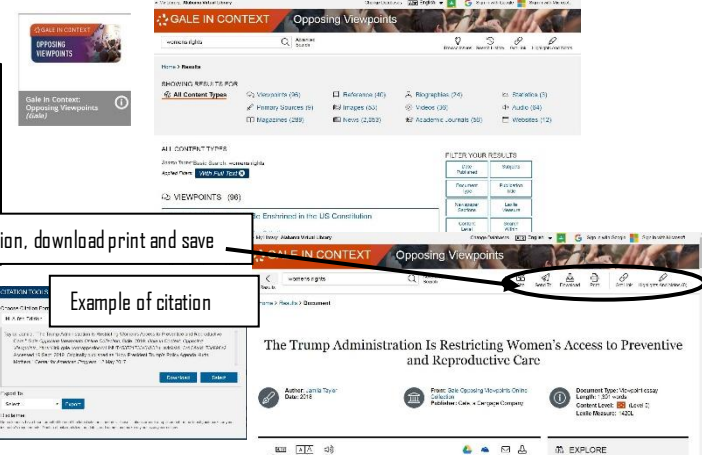
- Options for **Gale products**  
**Gale In Context: Opposing view points**

Print or view PDF for full text information.



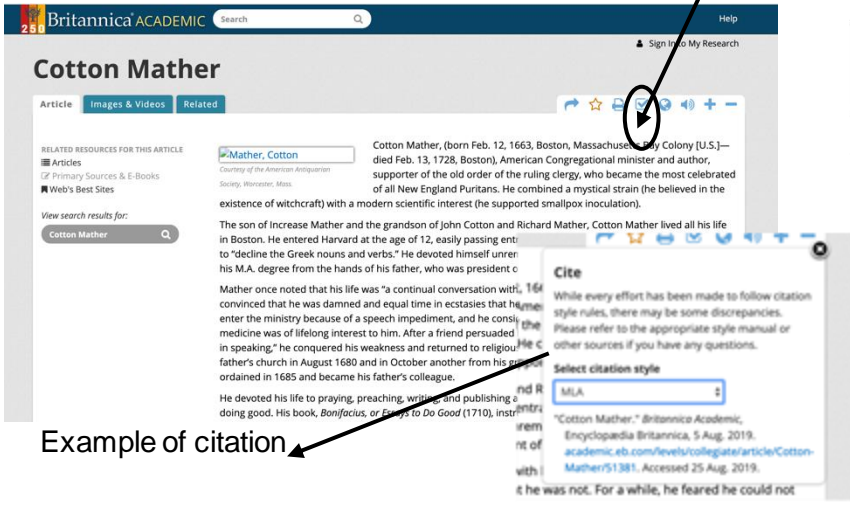
Saving research EBSCO products- individual items can be saved in Google Drive or various other formats.

Tool bar for citation, download print and save



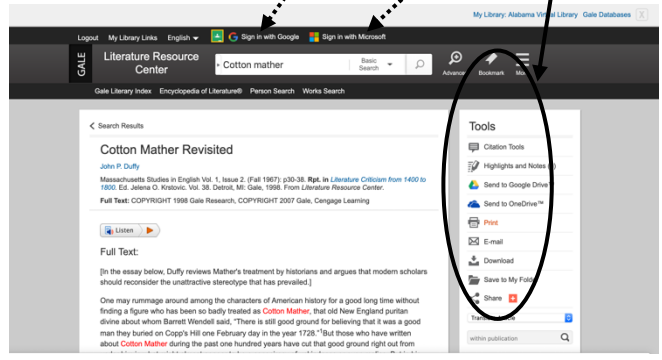
Example of citation

- Options for **Britannica Academic**.  
From this page, select the citation tool.  
From this page, select type of citation format.

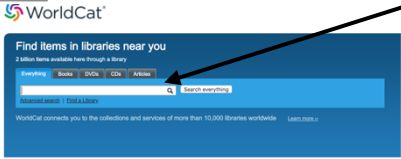


Example of citation

Literary Resource Center  
It is possible to save individual items in a Google or Microsoft account. This page also allows for developing citation information.



- 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.

Revised by: J. Renee Marty 9.29.19