POL 200: Analyzing Politics
Library Lab
Finding Out About a Topic
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Structure of Today’s Class

- Begin to explore the research conversations surrounding your topic(s) for RQ1
- Start thinking about RQ2, especially how the library can support your research question
- Expand the range of resources you normally search
Entering the Research Conversation

- Brainstorm topic ideas
- Generate possible search terms
  - Course readings, Google, Wikipedia, conversation
- Select appropriate search tools
  - Databases, library catalog, reference books
- Use search tool features to refine your search
- Become familiar with Interlibrary Loan (requesting materials from other libraries)
Small Group Discussion

Once you finish the worksheet, find someone(s) else who is also done. In groups of 2 or 3, discuss your topic, the places you searched, next steps, etc.

Each person should identify at least one new thing you learned today. A new database to explore? An insight about your topic? A way to search?

We are learning from each other. Your group might have additional ideas about where and how to search and you might have ideas for your group on their topics.
Final Reflection

What are some of your next steps in your research?