Beach Reads for the Winter

Do you remember what it’s like to read for pleasure? It may be a foreign concept to you now. It may be like thinking of phone booths or tape players or the time when Pluto was a bona fide* planet. Well, with the break coming up, reading for pleasure could make a comeback. Like Winona Ryder. Or Chuck Taylors. We’ve got a few ways you could make this happen:

McNaughton Collection: Did you notice this new leisure reading collection on the book stand in front of the stairwell? Your SGA funded it, and it’s awesome.

Kindles: Request a title be placed on a Kindle, and we’ll notify you when it’s ready for pick-up. Do so on our website, under How Do I?...Borrow a Kindle/iPad?

Paperback Collection: These leisure reads can be found on the 3rd floor, to the left of the stairwell.

…but maybe you’re one of those folks who swears they are so burned out they will not crack a printed material of any sort over break. If it has pages, it’s right out. No recipe book, no Pensacola News Journal, no Oprah Magazine. Well, if that’s the case, maybe a movie from our Media Room would be your best bet, friend.

*Who knew that was two words besides MS Word? I spelled it bonified at first. True Story.

Beyond the Scholarly Article

Scholarly, peer-reviewed sources are the cream of the crop in terms of giving you credible, original research to back up the claims you make in your papers. So, we spend a good deal of time showing folks how to find them (probably the easiest way is to punch in your keywords into OneSearch on our homepage and limit to “Scholarly, Peer-Reviewed” sources in the left-hand column).

But, sometimes, you need other types of sources for your papers. Gasp! If allowed by your instructor, news articles or statistics may suit your needs better, depending on your topic.

…And—this is just my opinion, perhaps—OneSearch is poopy for those purposes. Try these instead:

- Search a newspaper database. You may get to these by selecting the General subject under our Databases tab. I like to search the database, ProQuest Central, because it searches all of the ProQuest newspaper databases, including the New York Times and Pensacola News Journal, at the same time. Just limit to newspapers in the left-hand column.
- The database Opposing Viewpoints may be good if you want to find credible statistics about a current issue (like attitudes towards police). It has search results that include statistics and charts. Each statistic will show you the source from where the statistics were pulled.
- Statistical Abstracts of the United States will give you stats on education, population, etc.

Need help? Ask us at the Information Desk, chat with us via Ask-a-Librarian on our homepage, or email me!