



Anoka Technical College Library Media Center Name: _____

PROQUEST NEWSPAPER DATABASE EXERCISE

Exercise objective: To become familiar with searching a full-text, national and international English-language newspaper subscription database. This exercise will introduce you to several of Proquest's search features and prepare you for course research.

1. Locate the **Find Articles** section on the Library website. Click on **General databases**, and click on **Proquest Newspapers**.
2. Conduct a **basic** keyword search using two or more of the following terms (or other terms on this topic):

internet

security

privacy

computer* (the * represents the possibility of other forms, such as computers)

identity

theft

hacker*

crime*

Note that two words are treated as an exact phrase search, whereas more than two words just have to be in close proximity to each other for articles to match the search.

Write here the search terms that you used: _____

3. How many documents were found? _____. Did Proquest give you any useful tips or suggested topics? Yes/no. If so, what were they?

4. Click on the green **Topics** tab on the top of the screen. Next to Suggest topics, click on the red "About" link and read how this feature works.

5. Leave the default selection "Suggest topics (enter keywords) and enter a keyword or phrase from number 2 above, or another keyword or phrase that you deem appropriate. Browse through the alphabetical results. Proquest gives you the option to view the documents that contain articles on a specific topic, or to narrow to a related or subtopic. Try clicking on two or more options and compare results. When you find an option that provides you with useful articles, write down the topic here: _____ . How many documents did this topic locate? _____ Did you discover any additional useful topics for narrowing your results? Yes/no. If yes, list one additional useful topic: _____ .

6. Click on the green **Advanced** tab on the top of the screen. Look at the **drop-down menu** for the **search fields**. (The default is Citation and Document Text – this is a broad search which looks through entire documents.) You should be aware of additional search fields in order to compose a more focused search.
 - a. If you know an article's title, what is a good field to search? _____
 - b. If you know the newspaper's name, what is a good field to search? _____
 - c. How would you limit your search to the last 12 months? _____
 - How would you limit your search to the years 2006 and later?

7. Find the article "Protecting identity among...". What is the rest of the article title?
_____. The date? _____. The newspaper name?
_____.

8. Mark the article by putting a check-mark in the box next to it.

9. Using any of the techniques discussed (basic, topic, or advanced search,) locate a second article on this topic. Mark the article.

10. View the marked articles together by clicking on "2 marked items" just above the search results. Click on "create your bibliography" and then choose MLA and "download". A citation is generated at the top of your screen. What section of the MLA citation would you need to adapt if you were to copy and paste it into your research paper? _____.