POLS 2000: Methods in Political Science
Citation Mapping Activity
September 5, 2018

In this activity, you will identify and map significant literature that has been published on a topic of interest to you.

1. Use the Worldwide Political Science database to find a journal article on your research topic that:
   - has been published in the last 10 years.
   - is the most cited article that's relevant to your topic.
   - is either available full-text through the SLU Libraries OR includes the list of references in Worldwide Political Science Abstracts.

2. Add this source to your citation map/web. Include:
   - citation information. (Don’t forget the handy “cite” feature on the right hand side of the page!)
   - cited by #.
   - Note: You'll also want to save the source, or email it to yourself, as you’ll refer to it later in this exercise.

3. Skim your article and the references to see if the authors analyzed data to make their conclusions. If you can identify a main data source (or sources) add it to your citation map. Include:
   - citation information if given, or any name, acronym, or associated number given by the authors.
   - An arrow or line between the first article and the data to indicate it used this data in its analysis. Include something to indicate this is data, not an article (for example draw a circle instead of a square around it).

4. Find a second journal article that was cited by your first article and published within the last 10 years. (Hint: You'll find this in the article's list of references/works cited.)
5. Add this source to your citation map. Include:

- citation information.
- cited by #.
- an arrow that points from the first article to this one to indicate that the first source cited the second.

6. Find a third journal article that cited your first article and was published within the last 10 years. (Hint: Use the "Cited by" in Worldwide Political Science Abstracts or "Cited by" in Google Scholar.)

7. Add this source to your citation map/web. Include:

- citation information.
- cited by #.
- an arrow that points from this article to the first article to indicate that this article cited your first article.

8. Continue finding sources, noting the same information described above and the relationship of the various sources to each other on your citation map.

9. Finally, note any other connections between the citations/sources on your map. (You'll need to check the references lists of each source.) Draw arrows to show these links. Remember to note if any sources are using the same data sources.

This activity was adapted by Rebecca Hyde from: