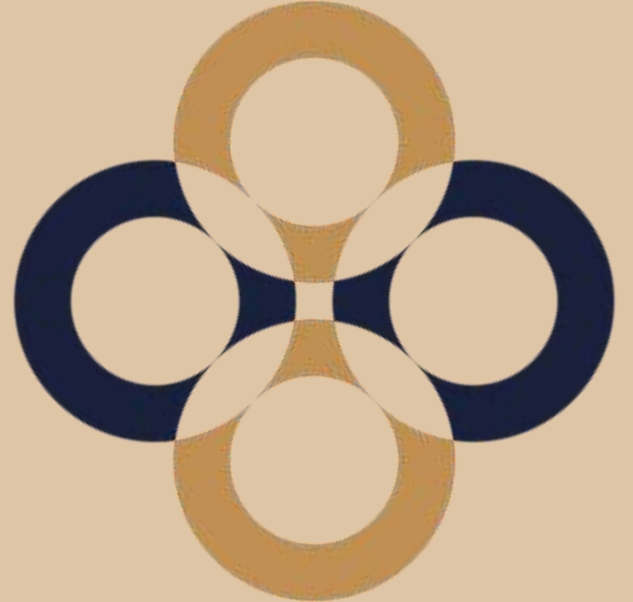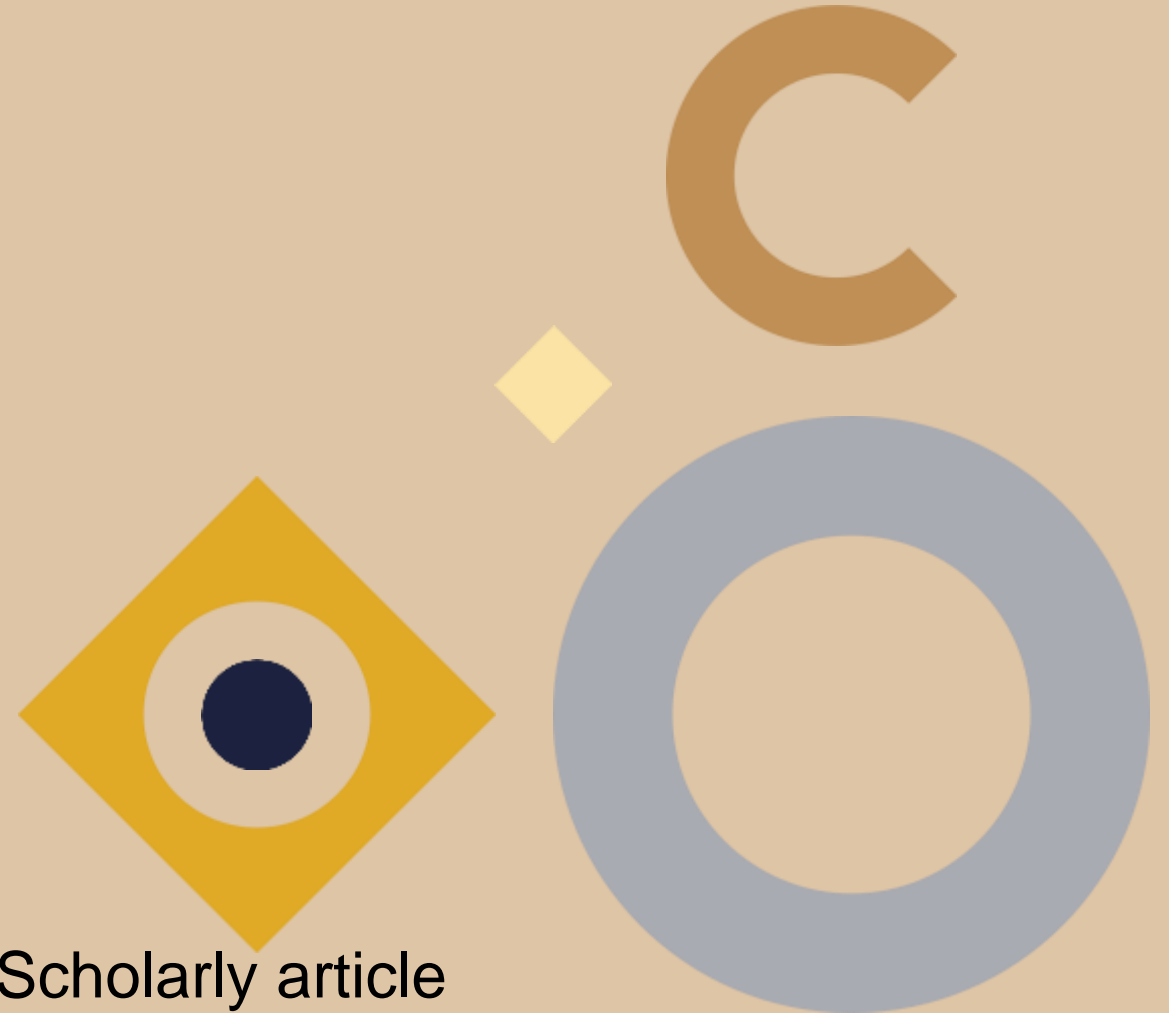# Thesis Writer's Guide I.

Sources

# Content

➢Topic selection

➢Sources

➢Where to look for what?

➢SuperSearch

➢External sources, Source evaluation, Scholarly article

# Topic selection

➢ Own topic (interest, personal issue, current theme)

➢ Topic offered by department/supervisor/consultant

➢ General hints
  ➢ Time management
  ➢ Check sources in advance
  ➢ Check former theses in Repository
    ➢ formal requirements
    ➢ theses' bibliography can serve as a starting point
  ➢ Critical reading, questions
  ➢ Narrow your topic (focus on it)

# Sources



*Source: https://paperpile.com/g/find-credible-sources/*

Academic, scholarly literature

- ➢ Books
- ➢ Peer-reviewed articles
- ➢ Conference proceedings

Grey literature

- ➢ non-commercially published
- ➢ non peer-reviewed
- ➢ e.g. working papers, company financials, theses, dissertations
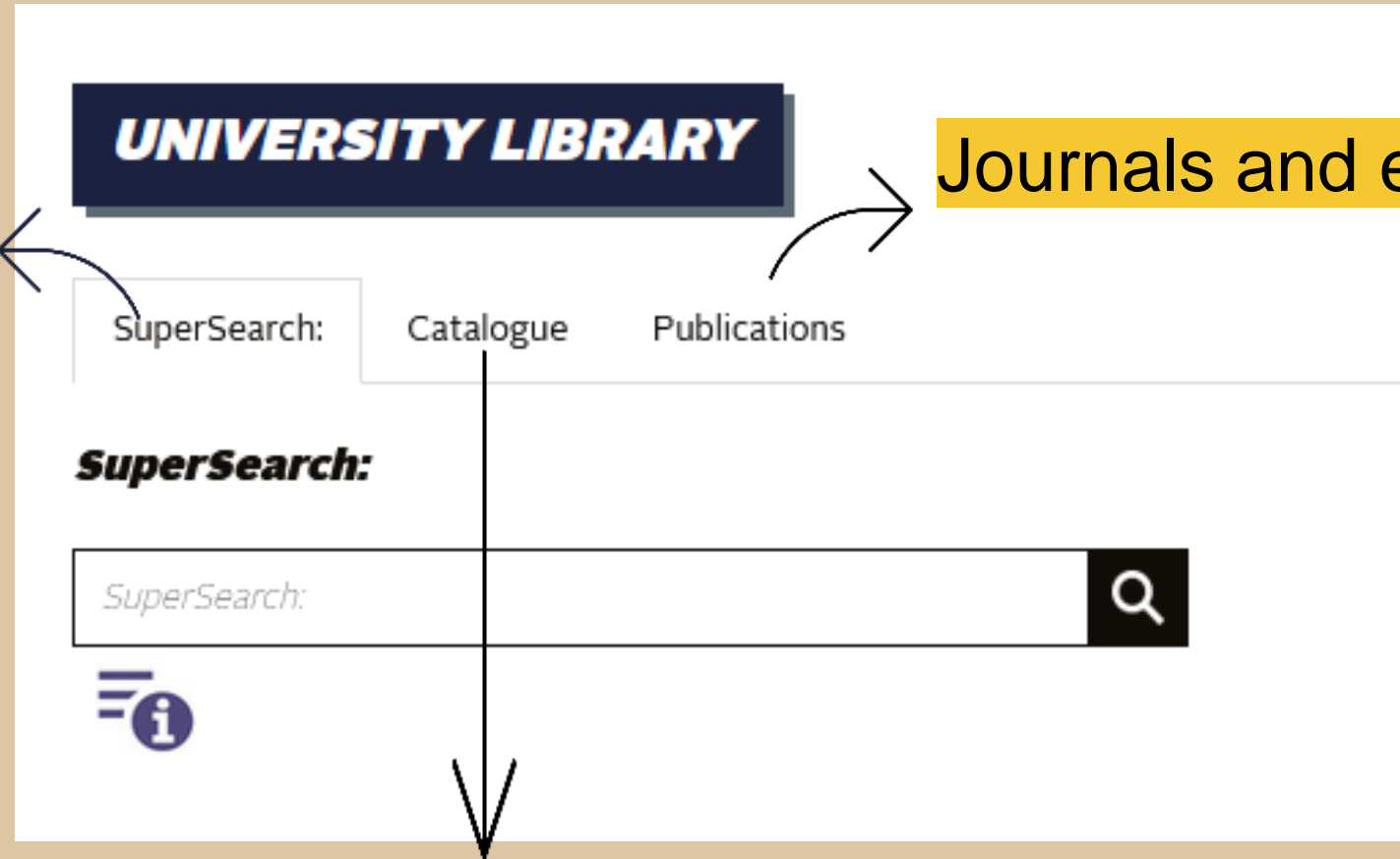
Data, figures

- ➢ Governmental, international or commercial organizations, statistical databases
- ➢ Privately collected (surveys)
- ➢ SPSS

# Where to look for what? - Library sources



**For topic search**

**UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**

SuperSearch:      Catalogue      Publications

**SuperSearch:**

**Journals and ebooks**

**+Databases**

**+Repositories**

**Mainly printed books + e-links**

# SuperSearch - (Live demonstration)

BUDAPESTI CORVINUS EGYETEM

**My dashboard**

- ⊞ Overview
- 📁 Projects
- 🔖 Saved
- 🔍 Searches
- 👁 Viewed

**Research tools**

- 🔍 General search
- 📄 Publications
- ⋅✕⋅ Concept map
- 🏛 Supplemental sources

## Building a search query

- ➤ **Create a topic sentence**
- ➤ **Pick up some keywords, find synonyms**
- ➤ **Use search techniques: logical operators (AND, OR, NOT), „phrase search", truncation (*), wildcard (?)**
- ➤ **Fine tuning with filters, field search**
- ➤ **Save results into Dashboard/export to Zotero**

# Search articles, books, journals & more

| Search for topic using keywords | 🔍 |
|---|---|

| Online full text | Catalog only | 🟠 Peer reviewed | All time ⌄ | Advanced search |

## Other options

- ➤ **Interlibrary loan (conditions!)**
- ➤ **Supplemental sources**
- ➤ **Concept Map**

# External sources – Source evaluation

➤ „To Google or not to Google?", Wikipedia

➤ Google Scholar

**Source evaluation (CRAAP-test)**



| C | Currency: *The timeliness of the information.*<br>• When was the information published or posted? Revised or updated?<br>• Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well? |
|---|---|
| R | Relevance: *The importance of the information for your needs.*<br>• Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?<br>• Who is the intended audience? / an appropriate level? |
| A | Authority: *The source of the information.*<br>• Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?<br>• What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations?<br>• Is the author qualified to write on the topic? / contact information? |
| A | Accuracy: *The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content.*<br>• Where does the information come from? / supported by evidence?<br>• Has the information been reviewed or refereed?<br>• Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion? |
| P | Purpose: *The reason the information exists.*<br>• What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?<br>• Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?<br>• Are there political, religious, institutional or personal biases? |

*Source: https://www.emaze.com/@AIFFRRWC/C.R.A.A.P.-Test-for-Evaluating-Websites*

*Source: https://academic-englishuk.com/evaluating-sources/*

# Signs of a scholarly article



**Title** → A Cognitive Model for the Representation and Acquisition of Verb Selectional Preferences

**Author Details** → Afra Alishahi, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto; Suzanne Stevenson, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto

**Abstract** → (abstract section)

**Introduction** → 1 Introduction

**Publication** → (publication note at bottom)

**Charts & Equations** → (table and Figure 6)

**References** → (references list)

**Body Text** → (body section)

**Conclusions** → 5 Conclusions

8

# Thank you for your attention!

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