A. Pollak Library Home Page

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B. General Strategies for Research

- What is your research topic?
- Identify the concepts in your topic, which will provide helpful **keywords** for searches
- Combine different keywords of your research topic using **and**:
  - academic achievement **and** college students
- Combine related/alternate keywords of your research using **or**:
  - (academic achievement **or** academic performance) **and** (college students **or** university students **or** graduate students)
- **Subject headings** associated with search results are effective tools for narrowing your results.

C. Journal Articles

- "Find It" button or similar link to determine article availability
- Three possibilities for article full text: online, in print, or interlibrary loan
- Database-specific tools for articles of interest (e.g., print, save, or e-mail records)

**Please remember...**
- Set up your ILLiad account as soon as possible
- Become familiar with the databases in your field and other areas of interest
- Select the most appropriate keywords for your searches
- Take time to explore the unique tools in a database for narrowing results
- Use the Pollak Library’s live help links for assistance – **We’re here to help you!**