Searchpath Objectives

1 Starting Smart
This module covers types of information sources you can use for your topic.
When you have completed this module of Searchpath, you should be able to:
- identify a variety of information sources
- identify characteristics of information on the Web
- identify characteristics of library resources

2 Choosing a Topic
This module covers topic selection and how to identify keywords to search your topic.
When you have completed this module, you should be able to:
- broaden or narrow a topic
- identify keywords for a topic
- use connectors and truncation in constructing a search
- understand the difference between keyword and subject searching

3 Using IRIS
This module covers how to search IRIS, the Rutgers University Libraries catalog.
When you have completed this module you should be able to:
- find books by title, author, or subject heading
- find journals by using a PERIODICAL Title search
- identify the location of books or journals
- read a call number and use it to find items in the library
- find an item placed on reserve using the Reserves in IRIS

4 Finding Articles
This module covers how to use article indexes to identify articles on a subject.
After completing this module you should be able to:
- distinguish between popular and scholarly periodicals
- choose an article index appropriate to your information need
- use an index to identify articles on a topic
- retrieve fulltext articles either electronically or physically within the Rutgers University Libraries

5 Using the Web
When you have completed this section of Searchpath, you should be able to
- understand the use of the World Wide Web (WWW) as a resource to find information
- understand the organization of the Internet and be able to identify major types of websites
- understand the use of different types of Web search engines
- understand and evaluate Web information

6 Citing Sources
This module covers citing sources, plagiarism, and copyright.
When you have completed this module of Searchpath, you should be able to:
- describe when to cite sources used in your work
- recognize different parts of a citation
- list ways to avoid plagiarism
- understand the reasons for copyright