\_\_\_[*Course Title*]\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Literature and Data Search Session

9/30/10

1. Create an EndNote Library

* Save it to your Scratch Disk
* Remember to drag both the .enl file and its accompanying folder to your comps folder when you’re done.

2. Search EconLit, Google Scholar, and EconPapers to find up to 5 potentially relevant articles

* http://scholar.google.com
* For EconLit and EconPapers, go to the Course Research Guide: **http://gouldguides.carleton.edu/[*course-code*]**

A. Note language used to describe topic that could be used in future searching

B. Enter the articles into your EndNote library.

3. Try 2 Advanced Searching Tricks

A. Take one article found in Google Scholar or EconPapers and look it up in EconLit. Do a new search in EconLit using one or more of the descriptors for this article.

*What are some descriptors you might use in future searches?*

B. Take one article and do a citation search using Social Sciences Citation Index. Record any new articles in EndNote

4. Get copies of 2 of your articles (or put in ILL requests)

* Think about where you will be storing and accessing your articles
* Do you have any questions about how to access articles and working papers?

5. Compare the bibliographies of these 2 articles

A. What authors show up more than once? Did you remember seeing any of them in your search results? Note these for following up on later.

B. What might be a good method for keeping track of these highly cited articles?

6. Prioritize

A. Look briefly at the articles you have so far. Which are most important for you to read first? Read at all?

B. How do you make this decision?

7. Look at the data sections of at least 2 articles

A. What data sources are used?

B. An extension of the previous question, what was the unit of analysis and how many cases were there?

C. Does the article say anything about the availability of these data?

D. What are the article’s claims? How do their claims compare, inform the broader area of research? What might further research be?

8. Search LexisNexis Statistical broadly on your topic

A. Do any sources look worth following up on?

B. Do you note any patterns in who is publishing these?