Databases for Finding and Narrowing a Topic
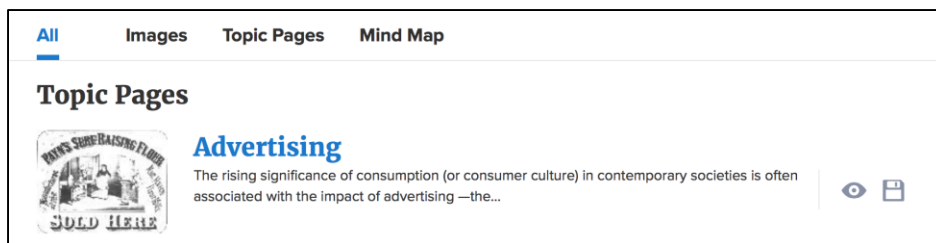
Note: Log in to databases using your student portal/D2L username and password.

Credo
http://library.national.edu > Find Articles (green tab) > Choose a Database > Click "C" > Scroll to Credo General Reference

1. One way to narrow your topic, if you have already chosen one, is to quickly learn some more about the subject. Start with encyclopedia articles, available in Credo.
    -   On the Credo homepage, search for your topic in the search box.
    -   Look for a topic page and click through to that page.
    -   Scroll down to "Credo Entries" for more articles.

    Note: If your subject does not have a topic page, simply scroll through the results and look at the <u>name of the encyclopedia</u> and <u>word count</u> for each article. This will help you quickly browse articles.

2. For more ideas, look for a **Mind Map** and **Related Articles** list on the right.

    Look at the mind map to find aspects of a broad topic that you might be interested in focusing on. Related articles will be suggested on the right side of the screen. When you click on a related topic within the Mind Map, Credo will display new related articles.

SIRS Knowledge Source
http://library.national.edu > Find Articles (green tab) > Choose a Database > Click "S" > Scroll to SIRS Knowledge Source

1. When you have not yet chosen a topic, use SIRS to explore different subjects. Click on **Browse All Pro/Con issues** to see topical lists on different subjects.

2. Click on a topic you're interested in. Look for these helpful features:
   - Viewpoints
   - Topic timeline
   - Sources by type * *This database does not include peer-review sources.* *

NBC Learn

http://library.national.edu > Find Articles (green tab) > Choose a Database > Click "N" > NBC Learn

Use NBC Learn to browse a variety of newsworthy topics, everything from current events to women's studies.

Watch a few short 5-8 minute news clips from NBC to begin generating ideas for your assignment. You can also search for a subject in the search box at the top right of the page.