

Research Guidelines

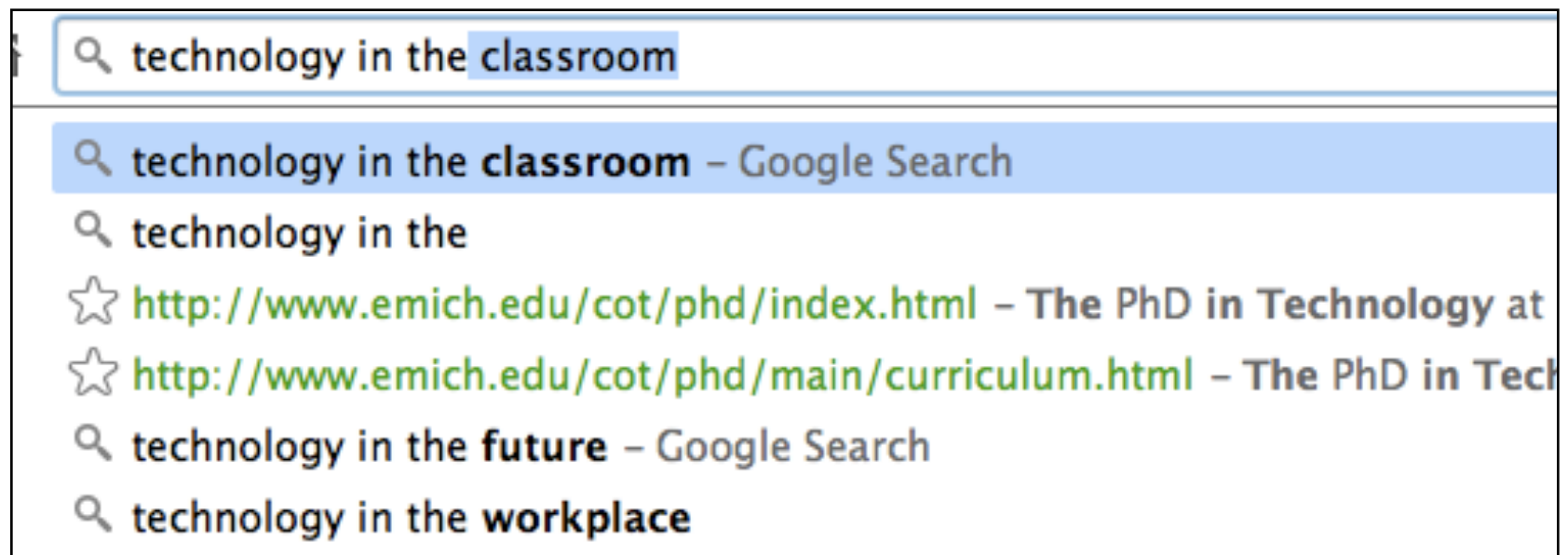
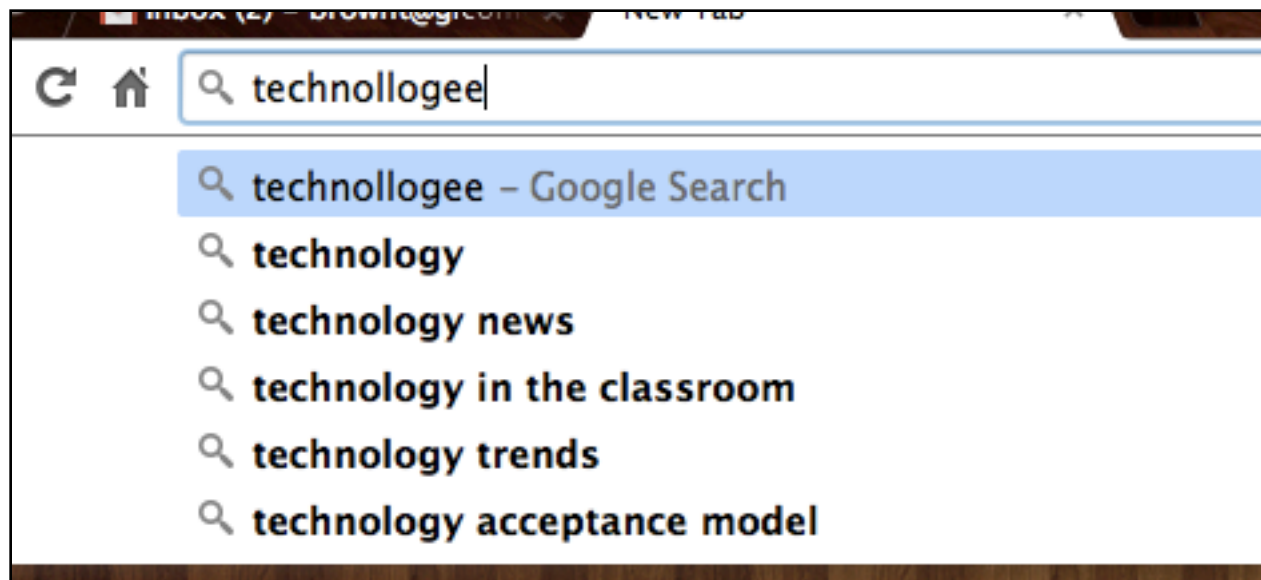
For the Informational Essay

How Many References?

- You will need **AT LEAST 3** references- that is, 3 sources of information with credible statistics and information.
- You may use 2 digital sources (web, etc.) and one print source (book, newspaper, magazine)
- Or, all 3 of your sources can be digital.
- You **MUST** give credit for all of your sources.

Search Terms

- If you use a search engine like Google, be sure to use the proper terms and that they are spelled correctly. While Google will try to help you with suggested spellings, be sure you are typing correctly
- Specific terms will work better than just a single word



What kind of Websites to Use?

- Look for sites that have .edu, .org. or .gov on the end of the URL (web address)
- Stay away from websites ending in .com- these sites represent businesses and ultimately they want to sell something to you.
- **.edu = educational**
- **.org= organization**
- **.gov- government**

Kinds of Sites

- There are many kinds of websites out there- be selective in what kind you go to and what kind of information you take from them.
- There are social sites (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), gaming sites, wikis, blogs (usually personal), and commercial sites that try to make money from visitors.
- Look for legitimate, credible (believable) and truthful sites.

Look For

- Look for sites that are educational and informational, such as news sites or online magazines.
- Look out for sites that are ‘sponsored by’ or paid for by companies or individuals that want to put their own spin on the information presented.
- **Credible means believable and TRUTHFUL.**

Citing Your Sources of Information

- You **MUST** cite, or give credit for the information you get from **ALL** of your sources.
- Keep the URLs (web addresses) of all sites you end up getting your information from, either by writing them on a piece of paper, **or (best of all), copying/pasting them into a Google Doc.**


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Plagiarism

- What IS plagiarism?
- Pretending that someone else's work is yours.
- Copying someone else's work (not doing your own).
- Using someone else's work and not giving credit to them.
- <https://www.commoncraft.com/video/plagiarism>