

# NECB eLibrary Newsletter

## Highlights:

- NECB assists job seekers with new Career Resources
- Wikipedia as a Source?
- Check out Global Issues in Context – Perspectives on International News & Events



Let us help put you to work – Career Resources for NECB students.

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## New Career Resources Center @ the eLibrary!

What's new this fall at the eLibrary? The NECB eLibrary now has a new Career Resource Center with links to dozens of highly regarded websites that provide information on every aspect of a job search.

These resources have been selected and organized as to provide students with a one-stop source for their career research needs.

Resources available include:

- Recommended Readings - with full-text publications

providing advice on career choice in addition to effective resume and cover letter writing

- How to conduct company and industry research
- Internet job databases and resume postings
- Publications that provide information on improving your networking and interviewing skills as well as negotiating compensation

- Access to salary surveys and how to determine relocation expenses

- CareerTV - a fascinating website geared towards college students and young professionals researching careers. The companies profiled are some of the most sought-after employers in the world.

So, please join us at the eLibrary and let us help put you to work!





**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

the free encyclopedia

that anyone can edit



April Morin  
Director of Instructional Design

Whether it's answering your technical questions, developing new courses, or conducting Epic webinars, April is here to help you succeed. She can be reached at [april.morin@necb.edu](mailto:april.morin@necb.edu).

## Do You Know: Wikipedia as a Source?

"Can Wikipedia be used as a source for a research paper?" is a question frequently posed by students.

At NECB and many other colleges, faculty discourage using Wikipedia as a source.

However, that doesn't mean that Wikipedia should be dismissed entirely as a tool for doing research. Because of Wikipedia's extensive and constantly-updated coverage of current events and popular culture, it can be an excellent means of gathering information.

Many of the entries in Wikipedia are long and comprehensive with no equivalent entry to be found in other encyclopedias or scholarly sources. Also, some of

these other encyclopedias, e.g. Encyclopaedia Britannica Online, may take considerably longer to add new entries and they may not cover a topic in as exhaustive detail as in Wikipedia.

Unfortunately, the challenge when using Wikipedia as a source is that anyone can edit its contents. This leaves the user unable to ascertain the credentials of a contributor. Authors of articles may not necessarily be experts on the topics they write about, leaving room for errors, misinformation, or bias.

The lack of editorial control and peer review is also bothersome. The quality of entries also varies widely. Many entries have several

authors, each contributing a paragraph, leaving the text an assembly of loosely connected topics rather than a coherent article. The quality of references and the external links is also inconsistent.

However, when done well, the references provided in some entries can be the most valuable content contained in Wikipedia.

- Bottom line: The best use of Wikipedia may be to view it as a starting point at which to gain contextual information about a topic before moving on to more detailed or more reliable information sources.
- Also, it is a good idea to verify information that you find there with more authoritative sources.

## Meet the NECB Director of Instructional Design

Hello! My name is April Morin and I'm the Director of Instructional Design at NECB. I joined the NECB eLearning team in 2008. Over the last 2 years the College has experienced tremendous growth and now provides multiple degrees for working adults to pursue in a flexible and affordable way. Being a part of that growth has been such a rewarding experience! NECB's commitment to quality and

the exciting learning environment this growth has provided keeps me engaged and loving my job.

In my role at the College I have the opportunity to work closely with NECB faculty to design and develop new courses in the Epic learning management system. I'm constantly striving to find new ways to improve our courses, and love the

challenge this brings. I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you in our virtual environment - whether it's introducing students to Epic during our New Student Orientation webinars or assisting Jeff Cronin, NECB's librarian, with the eLibrary webinars. I look forward to meeting more of you as you continue your education here at NECB. Good luck in class!

## Database of the Month!

### Global Issues **IN CONTEXT**

Perspectives on International News and Events

This is a terrific database that provides research material on a broad range of international issues such as global warming, poverty, war, world trade, nuclear proliferation, and human rights. It also contains information on narrower topics such as product safety in China, genocide in Darfur, sectarian violence in Iraq, and disaster recovery in Indonesia.

Resources contained in *Global Issues in Context* include primary documents such as videos on a wide range of topics that are updated weekly, audio and podcasts of speeches, and over 400 full-text English-language international

newspapers such as the *Bangkok Post*, *Kuwait Times*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* that provide a non-U.S.-centric view of issues. The database is also particularly rich with statistics providing interactive and static graphs, tables, and charts.

The database also offers Country Pages on nearly 200 nations that provide an overview for each country on their politics, economy, geography, and more. In addition, there are 250 Issues Pages on issues such as child labor, which provide an intellectual framework for

understanding the topic and its global impact.

This is a very user-friendly resource that has been designed with a student in mind. It offers current, authoritative, and reliable information that student researchers can locate through several search methods including an interactive world map that quickly focuses the user on a region, country, or culture. The content can be read online, emailed, printed, or saved to retrieve later.

If you need information on global issues, please check this out!

#### Browse Issues and Topics



##### Business and Economy

- Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill **UPDATED!**
- Microlending



##### Conflict and Diplomacy

- Iraq War **UPDATED!**
- Islamophobia **UPDATED!**



##### Science and Technology

- Robotics and Artificial Intelligence
- Technological Failures **UPDATED!**

## Trivia Research Questions

**Question #1:** If you are researching the international pharmaceutical giant, Merck & Company, and you needed a SWOT analysis, where would you find such a report?

**Question #2:** Where would you find a copy of the inaugural address delivered by President Calvin Coolidge on Wednesday, March 4, 1925?

**Answer to Question 1:** Go to the Business & Company Resource Center Database. Do a company search by company or ticker symbol, click on "Search only companies with SWOT pdf" and the search results will provide you with a 7-page S.W.O.T. report on Merck & Company.

**Answer to Question 2:** There are two places at the NECB Library: One, at Bartleby.com, located in the Virtual Reference Shelf. In Bartleby.com, click on the dropdown menu at the search button and you will see "Presidential Inaugurals." Type in "Coolidge" and the search results will give you the full-text of his speech. Two, go to the LitFinder database at the NECB Library under "General Education Resources," and within that database, click on "Works Search," then type "Coolidge Inaugural" into the search field, and limit by "Type of Work" to speech." Once again, the search results will provide the full-text of his speech.

#### Library Research Webinars

*Have questions?  
Want to learn more?*

Watch your emails for an invitation to join one of these terrific webinars conducted by the NECB librarian, Jeff Cronin.

Library Research Webinars are held at the start of every term.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.necb.edu](http://www.necb.edu)

<http://www.facebook.com/NECBedu>

## Tips for Students

The NECB eLibrary contains invaluable resources that will assist you with your assignments. It will be well worth your time to explore its many offerings. To get you started this is how it is organized:

**Databases** – There are over 24! These databases are grouped under the headings of either “General Education Resources” or “Business Resources” so that you can more easily identify the databases that will best suit your needs. If you mouseover any one of these titles such as “Contemporary Literary Criticism” a popup will appear that concisely describes the type of content that can be found in these databases.

**Virtual Reference Shelf** – Are you looking for an online dictionary, almanac, thesaurus, or encyclopedia? This is the place to visit! Do you need some statistics for

your paper? Check out *Statistical Abstract of the United States* – the best one-stop source for data on a wide range of topics.

**APA and MLA Citation Guides** – These are excellent reference guides that provide clear and concise instructions on how to properly cite using MLA and APA citation styles. They are produced by EasyBib in PDF format. Please print them out – it will make the task of citing substantially easier.

**Subject Guides** – There are 22 guides created by the NECB librarian covering subjects taught at the college. Each subject guide contains a list of databases recommended for research in the subject as well as a selected list of web resources.

**Reference Assistance** – Located in the “Student Resources” section of the eLibrary website, you will find the Ask a Librarian Express online librarian

service. Ask a Librarian offers reference assistance, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, from experienced reference librarians who can help you with your research needs. NECB pays for this student service, so there is no cost to chat with an online librarian. Just go to the Student Resources section of the NECB eLibrary and click on “Ask a Librarian Express.”

If you're still stuck with your research and you aren't able to get the assistance you need from the online librarian service, reference assistance is available from the NECB Librarian, Jeff Cronin. He will attempt to respond to your questions as quickly as possible. To contact the NECB Librarian, send an email inquiry with your name, the name of your course, your instructor's name, and your specific question to: [librarian@necb.edu](mailto:librarian@necb.edu).

## ***About New England College of Business and Finance...***

New England College of Business and Finance (NECB) is committed to educating students interested in careers in business or finance by providing a high quality, well designed and fully

supported online learning environment. The College offers opportunities for degrees at the Associate's, Bachelor's and Master's levels. We also offer opportunities for continuing education as

well as certificates in a variety of areas. To learn more about the College and our unique online learning courses and degree programs, please visit our website at [www.necb.edu](http://www.necb.edu).