

# Information Teach-In

Specialized Databases for Research

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Image courtesy of [earthsky.org](http://earthsky.org)

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# Today we will...

- Practice searching for academic information
- Become familiar with specialized databases
- Explore tools to complete college-level assignments



# What is a database?

A set of data grouped together in one location in (or accessible by) a computer. A computerized database has been likened to an electronic filing cabinet of information arranged for easy access or for a specific purpose.

The American Heritage New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy, 3rd Ed.



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hiking boots

SEARCH

VALENTINE'S DAY  
GIFT GUIDE  
SHOP NOW »

FIRST CLASS  
CUSTOMER SERVICE



SEARCH BY: [Size](#), [Narrow Shoes](#), [Wide Shoes](#), [Popular Searches](#)

SHOES

CLOTHING

BAGS &amp; HANDBAGS

ACCESSORIES

SHOP BY...

WOMEN'S

MEN'S

KIDS'

ALL DEPARTMENTS

ALPHABETICAL BRAND INDEX

# • A • B • C • D • E • F • G • H • I • J • K • L • M • N • O • P • Q • R • S • T • U • V • W • X • Y • Z

*"hiking boots and Boots"* we found **481** items!

Sort By Relevance

## NARROW YOUR CHOICES

## GENDER

- Men (276)
- Women (154)
- Boys (47)
- Girls (13)

## BOOT SHAFT

- Ankle (447)
- Standard (63)
- Mid-Calf (35)
- Adjustable (30)
- Narrow (1)

## HEEL HEIGHT

- Flat (143)
- Under 1in (1)
- 1in - 1 3/4in (199)
- 2in - 2 3/4in (11)

## STYLES

- Athletic (310)
- Snow Boots (32)
- Comfort (22)
- Bootie (9)
- Chukka (9)
- High Tops (8)
- Combat (6)
- Platform (6)
- Logger & Packer (2)
- Other (24)

YOUR SELECTIONS: HIKING X BOOTS X SHOES X

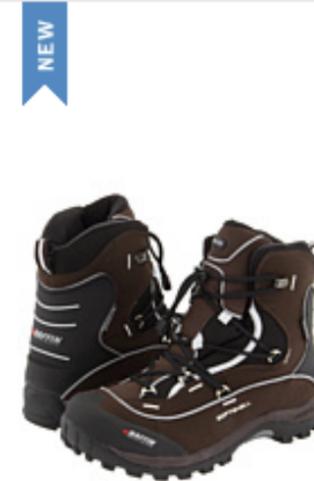
We adjusted your search results to be more relevant. Not what you were looking for? [Click here.](#)



**Scarpa**  
R-Evolution GTX®  
\$239.00



**Zamberlan**  
Guide GT RR  
\$340.00



**Baffin**  
Snosport  
\$134.99  
★★★★★



**Keen Utility**  
Detroit Mid Soft Toe  
\$140.00  
★★★★★



**NETFLIX**

**Home**

**HD**

**Subtitles & Captions**

**Ways to Watch**

TV Shows

Action & Adventure

Anime

Children & Family

Classics

Comedies

Cult Movies

Documentaries

Dramas

Faith and Spirituality

Foreign

Gay & Lesbian

Horror

Independent

Music

Musicals

Oscar Winners

Romance

Sci-Fi & Fantasy

Sports Movies

Thrillers

# Specialized Databases

- Cover specific types of materials
- Focus on particular subjects/  
disciplines
- Provide information that has been  
vetted



# Developing Keywords

- Broader
- Narrower
- Synonyms
- More academic

# Boolean Searching

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>AND</b> | <p><b>Narrows</b> search to only items containing both terms; best for combining related concepts</p> <p><b>Climate Change AND California</b></p>         |
| <b>OR</b>  | <p><b>Broadens</b> search to items containing any terms; best for combining synonyms and related terms</p> <p><b>Climate Change OR Global Warming</b></p> |
| <b>NOT</b> | <p><b>Narrows</b> search to items containing one term but not another</p> <p><b>Climate Change NOT Polar Bears</b></p>                                    |

# Boolean Searching

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| <b>NOT</b> | <p><b>Narrows</b> search to items containing one term but not another</p> <p><b>“Climate Change” NOT “Polar Bears”</b></p>                                    |

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# cushing library

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Everything   Articles   Books   eBooks   DVDs

Go

Limit results to: Libraries Worldwide

[Advanced Search](#)Search with  WorldCat®

## SPRING 2015 HOURS

Mon – Thurs: 9am – 10pm

Fri: 9am – 5pm

Sat: 10am – 5pm

Sun: 12pm – 10pm

Mon, 2/16: CLOSED for Presidents' Day

See our [Library Calendar](#) for more information.

## ASK A LIBRARIAN

- [Email or chat](#)
- Text 510-746-8103
- [Appointment](#)

Librarians are available most weekday afternoons and evenings.

## LIBRARY

- [Contact Us](#)
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- [Library Calendar](#)
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- [Hawk Squawk Newsletter](#)
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- [Off-Campus & Premium Services Access Guide](#)
- [Interlibrary Loan](#)
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- [Equipment Available](#)
- [Reserve a Study Room](#)
- [Reserve a Library Classroom](#)

## CALENDAR

Upcoming events and deadlines...

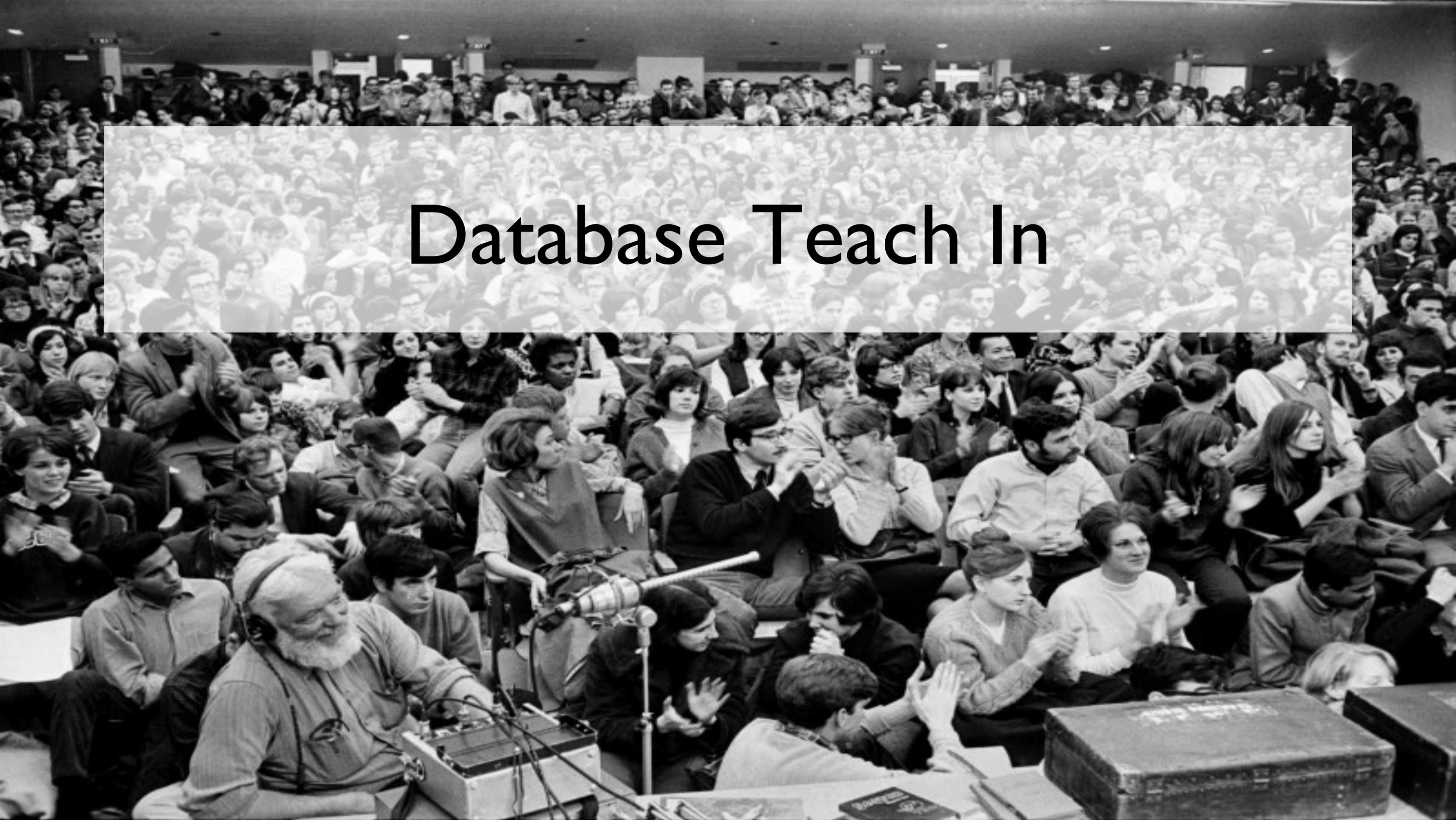
Refine by category

-Library Salon Series

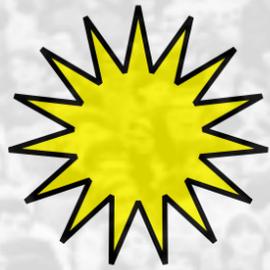
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

< 2015 >

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   |
| 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  |
| 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  |
| 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  |



# Database Teach In



# Database Teach-In!

*BREAK INTO GROUPS!*

Each group will explore and then teach the class about one of these fine databases.



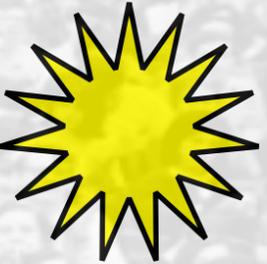
- ProQuest Research Library!
- Academic Search Premier!
- Credo Reference!
- CQ Researcher!

# But wait...there's more!

## *PREPARING YOUR LESSON!*



Your group will prepare an information teach-in about your database to the class.



- Practice searching.
- Explore your database using your group's topic.
- Try all of the items in the "Peer Teach" section.
- Plan your presentation.
- Teach.

# Pop Quiz!

- Which database is best for background information on your subject?
- If you are looking for a pro/con argument on a current social issue, which database would be the easiest to find one in?
- Where might you easily find articles from newspapers, magazines, and scholarly journals?
- If you'd like to see if the Cushing Library has a book in print, where do you start?