

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS CLASS ASSIGNMENT FOR LS 102

Step 1 – Use a recent edition of the *Statistical Abstract of the United States* -OR- the *LexisNexis Statistical Index* to find and copy/print a table of statistics on the topic of your choice.

Paper copies of the *Statistical Abstract* can be found in the Reference Dept. (1st floor). It's available online at <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>. The *LexisNexis Statistical Index* can be found online at <http://web.lexis-nexis.com/statuniv>.

Step 2 – Use -ONE- of the following to locate and print a record (author, title, call number, and so on) for another government document on the same topic covered by the table you copied/printed in Step 1:

- * The Library's online catalog
- * *Government Publications Index* [click "keyword" and "subject"]
- * *Government Periodicals Index* [select "Search All Fields"]

The last two indexes can be found from the Library's web site by selecting "Find Articles & More." Look in the "Databases by Subject" section and select "Government Publications."

Note: Because Sims Library is a 40% selective we won't have all the titles listed in the last two indexes, so if you choose to use one of those, you may want to print several citations before you move on to the next step.

Step 3 - Locate within the library the document you selected from the catalog/index. Or, if the document is available online, simply click the link to look at the online edition. Copy/print the front cover or the title page of the document you find (copy/print whichever one has the most information about the publication). If what you find is an article in a government periodical, copy or print just the first page of the article.

Step 4 - Turn in:

- A. Copy or printout of a table from the *Statistical Abstract* or from the *LexisNexis Statistical Index*.
- B. Printout of a record from the catalog or index you selected in Step 2.
- C. Copy or printout of the cover or title page from the publication you located in Step 3.

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