

Transitioning to College: Helping You Succeed

<http://www.transitioning2college.org>

Comparing Search Engines Activity

Name(s): _____

Topic: _____

	Yahoo! http://www.yahoo.com	Google Scholar http://scholar.google.com	USA.gov http://www.usa.gov	Scirus http://www.scirus.com
How many results (hits) were identified?				
What kind of information was returned in the top 5 results (hits)? Be specific in your answer. Examples: <i>*Mostly definitions, 3 .gov sites, 1 case study.</i> <i>*Good basic information with some statistics.</i> <i>*Articles that were too difficult to understand.</i> <i>*A mix of background information, two experiments, and news articles. We could understand all of the information.</i>	NOTE: Do not comment on the links that are to sponsors.			

	Yahoo! http://www.yahoo.com	Google Scholar http://scholar.google.com	USA.gov http://www.usa.gov	Scirus http://www.scirus.com
As a student doing research for a paper , what is one thing you don't like about each of the search engines and the results you get?				
Look at the first 3 results (hits). How many results had text that was completely accessible (full text of the article or document was viewable and there was no charge for the information)?				
Why do you think Google Scholar, USA.gov and Scirus might be more useful than Yahoo or Google if you are conducting research? In other words, what kind of material did you find using this search engine that you might not find if you were using a more general search engine?	X			
Choose one Web site or article from each of the search engines that you think would be the best one to use to start your research . Be prepared to explain why you made the choice.				