Task:

- Find governmental and scholarly resources for your upcoming Legislation Tracking & Policy Analysis assignment.
- Find scholarly material for your upcoming Historical Biography assignment.

Scholarly, Popular, and Governmental:

- **Scholarly** resources are written for academic audiences (scholars, researchers, students, etc.). Examples of scholarly resources include books in academic libraries and scholarly journal articles. You will find scholarly resources through the Schewe Library website.
- **Popular** resources are written for non-academic audiences. Examples of popular resources include newspapers, magazines, podcasts, and (most) websites. You will find popular resources through Google and the Schewe Library website (in the case of newspapers and magazines, mostly).
- **Governmental** resources are written by government officials, legislators, bureaucrats, etc. These resources are found in a variety of places, but are most easily located using government websites, university repositories, and non-partisan websites.
PO 202 - Assignment Resources

Places to Remember:

- Schewe Library Website (http://www.ic.edu/library/) -- Where you find our catalog, databases, etc.
- P0 202 Course Page (http://goo.gl/xqf0ua) -- A page of custom resources just for PO 202 students. Includes relevant databases, a catalog link, State and Federal legislation tracking websites, and a digital copy of this handout (exciting!).

Journal Articles (Found in the “Articles” tab of Schewe’s website / course page):

- Academic Search Complete -- A large, easy-to-use articles database.
- JSTOR -- Another large and fairly easy-to-use articles database.
- Project Muse -- A humanities and social science database, with both books and articles.
- CQ Researcher -- A government and political science information repository.
- Combined Search -- Watch out, this searches most of our databases all at once! Expect a lot of results!

Books & Videos (Found in the “Books” tab of Schewe’s website / course page):

- Schewe Library Catalog -- Our online catalog, where you find books, videos, etc.
Research Hints -- Legislation Tracking & Policy Analysis:

- Finding a particular bill/piece of legislation isn’t too difficult if you know where to look, but finding material about that bill/piece of legislation oftentimes frustrates students. What to do?

- **Tip #1: Find Similar Bills & Pieces of Legislation.** Look for similarly themed bills/pieces of legislation so you can draw out similarities, differences, and contrasts between the two. For example, if you’re analyzing a bill about wilderness preservation in Illinois, try looking for bills about wilderness preservation in Indiana, Kentucky, at the Federal level, etc.

- **Tip #2: Find Contextual Material.** Tease out the ‘substance’ of the bill, and then search for relevant scholarly material. For example, if a bill deals with gun control, search for scholarly material about gun control legislation, or the gun control lobby, or gun control history, etc. This material will give you a context within which to discuss your bill.

- **Tip #3: Don’t Expect Miracles.** Typing the name of a bill into a database and expecting to find material which discusses that particular bill is an exceptionally poor research strategy! Remember, there are thousands of bills and pieces of legislation which flow through Congress and State Assemblies every year, and very few of them will attract significant attention. For this assignment, there are no readymade resources!
PO 202 - Activity

Activity

- Get in a group of 3-4. Select a topic from Luke’s mystical topic box. Try to find:
  - (1) State bill/piece of legislation dealing with this topic
  - (1) Federal bill/piece of legislation dealing with this topic
  - (2) Scholarly articles/books dealing with this topic
- Be prepared to briefly outline your strategy and findings to the class!

- Group topic: _________________________________________________________________

- State legislation name & #: ___________________________________________________
  - Where we found this legislation: _____________________________________________

- Federal legislation name & #: __________________________________________________
  - Where we found this legislation: _____________________________________________

- Names of two scholarly articles: __________________________ / _______________________
  - Database where we found these articles: ________________________________________