Reviewing the extant literature familiarizes you with the topic of your research. It aids you in developing explanations, devising measures, identifying key concepts and data sources, generating hypotheses, and determining where your research fits into the broader system of knowledge. Fundamental to a review of the literature is a knowledge of the resources concerning the literature available to you at the library. In this lab you will work with a couple of the electronic resources that were mentioned in class. Following this lab, you will know how to access and use 2 electronic indices and how to begin to "build" a review.

1. The Social Science Citation Index (SSCI)
Using the SSCI, conduct a "general search." In the TOPIC box, enter *Supreme Court Decision Making*. Select English and Article for your search limits.

   ! a. How many documents matched your query? _________________________________

Perform an "author" search. Clear your previous search, and in the AUTHOR box, enter *Caldeira GA*. Once again select English and Article as your search limits.

   ! b. How many documents matched your query? _________________________________

Perform a "cited reference" search. Click on 'cited reference search." In the CITED AUTHOR box, enter *Caldeira GA*; in the CITED WORK box, enter *AM POLIT SCI REV*; in the CITED YEAR box, enter 1987.

   ! c. What is the article I have asked you to look for? __________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   ! d. How many times has it been cited? ____________________________________________

2. JSTOR
Using JSTOR, conduct a general search of Political Science Journals. In the first 'Full Text" box, enter *Congress*. In the second "Full Text" box, enter *Supreme Court nominations*. In the "Select Disciplines / Journals," click on *Political Science*. Select "Full Text Only" to limit your content availability, and then submit your search.

   ! a. How many documents matched your query? _________________________________

b. What is the article's research question? __________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

!  c. What is the principal hypothesis? ______________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

!  d. What data are used? _________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

!  e. What are the main findings? I.e., Was the hypothesis proven correct? _________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

3. "Build" a bibliography.

Choose one article Caldeira and Wright cited in their article and read it. Using the SSCI, conduct a "cited reference" search for the Caldeira and Wright article. Select one article that cites Caldeira and Wright and read it. On a separate notecard for each article, record the full correct citation, the article's research question, its principal hypothesis, the data used, and the main findings.

4. To turn in (be sure to put your name and SSN on all materials):

!  This completed lab exercise
!  The 2 notecards