Using Google Scholar Effectively (scholar.google.com)

- **The Macdonald-Kelce Library allows Google Scholar to connect with some of the databases in the library’s collection.** Using Google Scholar can be a useful way to locate scholarly material on your research topic. However, it should not be your only tool. High quality research requires using multiple platforms to collect the necessary information for your project.

- **Are you connected?** While on campus, Google recognizes your IP address and allows the scholar search page to generate links to the Macdonald-Kelce Library. To access article, log into Esearch. If you do not see links to the Macdonald-Kelce Library on the right-hand side of the search results page, take the following steps:
  - go to scholar.google.com
  - go to settings
  - go to library links
  - search for University of Tampa
  - check the boxes

- **Google interprets scholarship broadly.** Just because an item is in the results page does not mean it will be suitable for your research. Editorials, letters, conference proceedings, undergraduate research projects, etc. may appear in the list and might not be allowed for your assignment. Check with your professor or a librarian if you are uncertain. (ProTip: Search the journal title in the Ulrichsweb database to see if a journal is peer-reviewed (i.e. refereed).)

- **One useful function of Google Scholar is the 'cited by' link.** Once you find an article you like (from any source) search for that article in Google Scholar and click on the 'cited by' link under the article. This will show you other scholars who have referred to the article since it was published. Sometimes this will be off-topic, but sometimes it will lead you to more current research on that topic.

- **Is an article you want not in our database?** Most of the articles you see in the results list are available to you as a member of the UT community, either through our collection of databases or through Interlibrary Loan. You should not pay an extra fee to acquire articles directly from the journals or database vendors. If you have any questions about reading or accessing an article contact a librarian at the library reference desk.