This document assumes that the instructor creating the reading list already knows how to create a web page, add and edit links on the web page and, if applicable, how to use WebCT. It also assumes that the instructor knows how to search and view citations and articles on the library databases.

Creation of the reading lists should be completed on a computer that is recognized by the library proxy server as an on-campus computer (does not require the Off-Campus Login). If a computer that requires the Off-Campus Login is used for creation of the reading list (gathering the URLs for the links), the reading list links will fail. Only Ebsco persistent links as described on page two will work properly if constructed from a computer using the Off-Campus Login.

Completed reading lists may be used by on-campus and off-campus users.

A single reading list may contain articles from many different databases. The pages that follow contain instructions on the technique used to create the link to the article from the respective databases. The reading list will consist of a list of article titles linked to the full text using the linking techniques described.

Please note that only Ebsco and Newsbank have established permanent links. Other database providers may change server names or paths to articles. Such changes made by the database vendors could temporarily or permanently cause links to fail. Therefore, reading list links may need periodic editing.
Creating an Online Reading List Using Ebsco

Perform a search for the desired article and view the citation.

Near the bottom of the citation there will be a heading called “Persistent link to this record.” See the pink arrow below.

In front of that URL, a prefix is added that allows off-campus users to be authenticated as one of our students. It’s the same prefix for every article.

http://library.delmar.edu:2048/login?url=

So, together it would look like the following


It’s pretty simple, but there are a couple of cautions. Like any URL, it must be precise. There should be no spaces in the URL. Any typo will cause an error or a link to an unexpected article. As the links are so long, they should be put on a web page or WebCT page. Because of the length of the URL, they probably won’t work sent as an email.
Creating an Online Reading List Using Newsbank

Perform a search for the desired article and view the article.

Past the conclusion of the article, near the bottom of the content, there will be a heading that says, “OpenURL Article Bookmark (right click, and copy the link location):” This is followed by a link that has the title of the article (see the pink arrow below.)

Right-click on the article title link and select “Copy Shortcut.”

Paste the shortcut in your web editor application. The URL will be very long.

In front of that URL, a prefix is added that allows off-campus users to be authenticated as one of our students. It’s the same prefix for every article.

http://library.delmar.edu:2048/login?url=
So, together it would look like the following


There should be no spaces in the URL. In the example displayed above, Microsoft Word is forcing the URL to wrap at the hyphen. In a web editor, there will be no break or space.

Any typo will cause an error or a link to an unexpected article. As the links are so long, they should be put on a web page or WebCT page. Because of the length of the URL, they probably won’t work sent as an email.
Creating an Online Reading List with many other databases

Currently, no direct linking is possible for NetLibrary eBooks or StatRef. Ovid and WestLaw have not been tested for direct full text linking.

The process that follows was tested on eLibrary, Gale-InfoTrac, Facts on File and Grove Music.

Perform a search for the desired article and view the article.

Highlight the URL in the browser’s address bar (see pink arrow below.)

Copy the URL in the address bar by pressing Ctrl-C. Then paste the URL in your web editor.

In front of that URL, a prefix is added that allows off-campus users to be authenticated as one of our students. It’s the same prefix for every article.

http://library.delmar.edu:2048/login?url=

So, together it would look like the following


Prepared by Del Mar College Library Automation Services Department