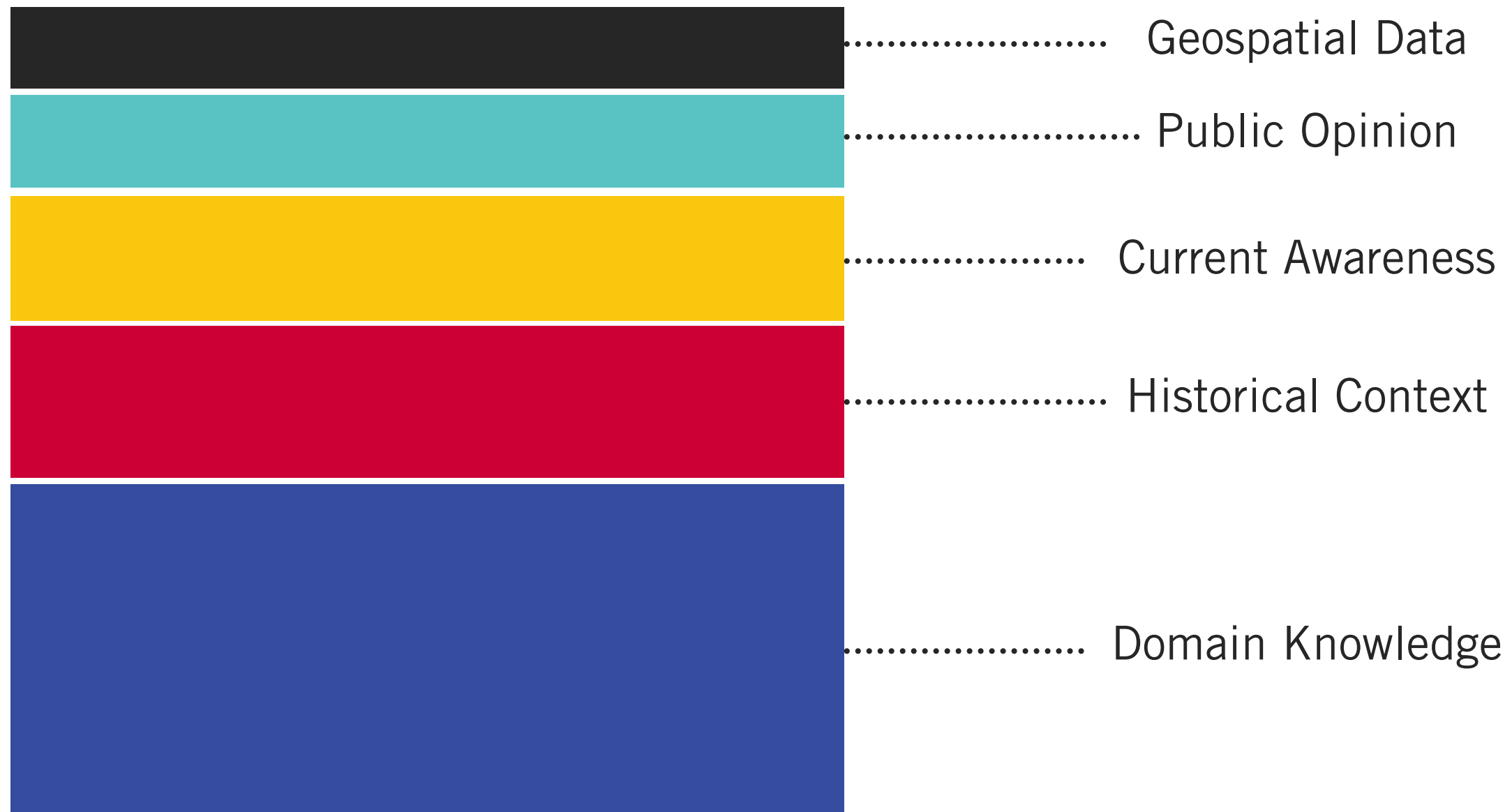


Secondary Research

Design Research Strategies | February 2, 2021 | Hollie Gardner, MADI Librarian

SMU Libraries

Secondary Research Categories





Domain Knowledge

What is it?

Subject-matter background and expertise

Types of Materials

- Scholarly Journal Articles
- Textbooks
- Trade Publications
- Conference Proceedings
- Blogs by experts in field
- Interviews with experts

Starting Points

- Library Search - <http://smu.edu/libraries>
- Research Guides - <http://guides.smu.edu>
- WorldCat.org & Interlibrary Loan

Tips & Best Practices

- Subject Heading searches are your best friend
- Use bibliographies to identify more sources



Historical Context

What is it?

Information about the period or place when an event occurred. Could be social/cultural, economic, political, etc

Types of Materials

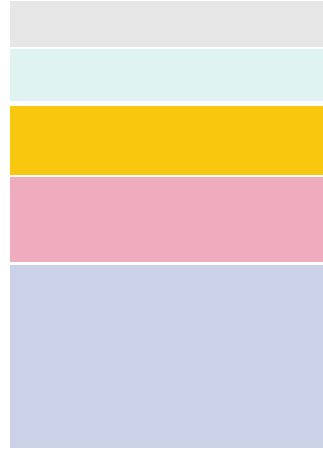
- Newspapers
- City Documents
- State Documents
- Company Archives

Starting Points

- Historical Newspapers - <https://guides.smu.edu/newspapers/historicaldatabases>
- Dallas Public Library Archives - <https://dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory/>
- Texas State Library - <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/>
- Internet Archive - <https://archive.org/web/>

Tips & Best Practices

- Archivists are usually pretty friendly & helpful
- Start early. Appointments may be required.
- Ask yourself, "Who would be interested in keeping this information?"



Current Awareness

What is it?

Information about the current period or place where an event is occurring. Could be social/cultural, economic, political, etc

Types of Materials

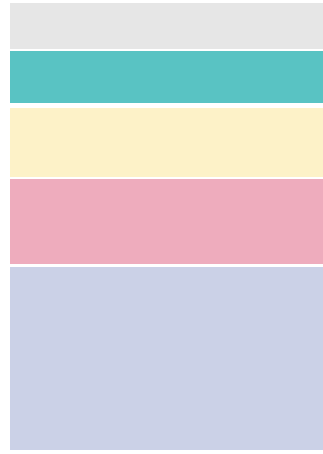
- Newspapers
- Local News Reports
- Radio Shows
- Blogs

Starting Points

- Current Newspapers - <https://guides.smu.edu/newspapers/todaysnews>
- Local news websites

Tips & Best Practices

- Check who wrote the articles. Check expertise.
- Look for words like editorial, opinion, etc.
- Cross check sources using sites like <https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-ratings>, <https://www.politifact.com/>, etc



Public Opinion

What is it?

Views and thoughts of the general public

Types of Materials

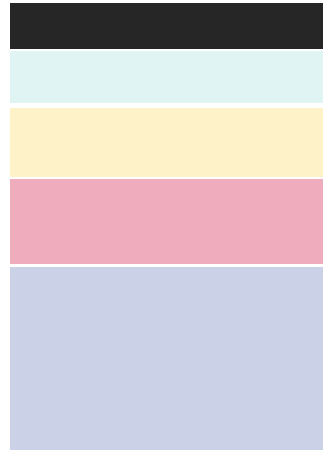
- Twitter and other social media
- Newspaper - opinion pieces
- Podcasts
- Polls

Starting Points

- Twitter text-mining guide
- Local news websites
- Popular polling research centers such as <https://www.pewresearch.org/topics/polling/>

Tips & Best Practices

- Check who wrote the articles. Check expertise.
- Look for words like editorial, opinion, etc.
- Cross check sources using sites like <https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-ratings>, <https://www.politifact.com/>, etc



Geospatial Data

What is it?

Applying data to maps in order to create new insights about a topic.

Types of Materials

- Local, state, country maps with data

Starting Points

- Dallas Open Data - <https://www.dallasopendata.com/>
- SMU Libraries - GIS - <https://smu.edu/gis>
- ArcGIS Online - <https://www.smu.edu/libraries/fondren/services/gis/systems>
- SimplyAnalytics (database on trial) - <https://guides.smu.edu/az.php>

Tips & Best Practices

- Use Dallas Open Data shapefiles in ArcGIS Online
- GIS websites provide links to other data sources
- Use the GIS Support is available through drop-in Zoom support

Get Help

Ask Us

- Ask general library and research questions through chat or email
- smu.edu/AskUs

GIS & Data Support

- smu.edu/gis
- smu.edu/help -or- email me and I can forward

Virtual Consultation with Hollie

- <https://libcal.smu.edu/appointment/12035>
- hgardner@smu.edu