



CASE STUDY

Credo Reference



Keene State College helps first-year students successfully navigate the research process with *Credo Reference*

Peer-to-peer mentoring and instruction provide a solid foundation for research success

Keene State College in New Hampshire is helping first-year students learn and strengthen their research and writing skills with an effective peer-to-peer mentoring and instruction program centered around *Credo Reference*.

Through Mason Library's Center for Research & Writing, undergraduate tutors trained in information literacy, library research, and writing tutoring staff the drop-in help desk and provide one-to-one research and writing help for students. This exchange of proven strategies from one peer to another creates a deeper, accessible understanding of research and writing processes. In fact, this peer-to-peer instruction model is so successful that Keene State College incorporated it into a popular workshop, "Alternatives to Wikipedia: *Credo Reference* and Intro to Background Research," offered through its required first-year "Integrative Thinking & Writing" course.

Beginning at the discovery stage, the tutors demonstrate best practices for finding background information and also help new students learn how to focus their research, whether they are struggling with several ideas they want to follow up on or are having difficulty narrowing down a specific topic. Through this hands-on instruction, first-year students discover how to best leverage Credo's Mind Map—a favorite tool among students—and the benefits of citing vetted, unbiased research that is academic and culled from an encyclopedia or an equally reputable subject-specific source. In addition, they learn how to pull key terms and follow up with more key terms to continue expanding upon their discoveries.



"Credo is really ... the number one tool that we use for helping students hone in on their topic and develop keywords."

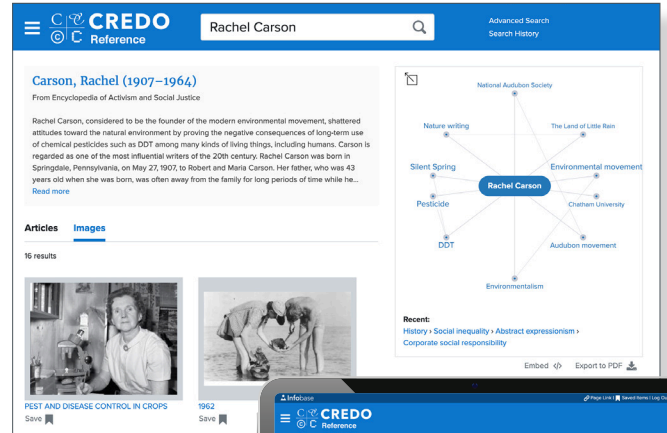
—Elizabeth Dolinger,
Information Literacy Librarian at
Mason Library, Keene State College



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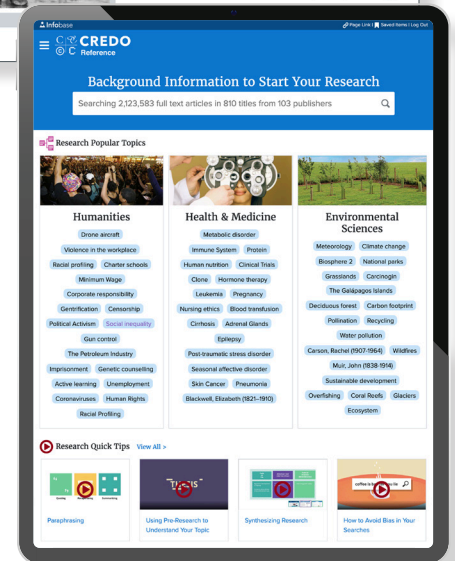
About Credo Reference

Credo Reference, powered by Infobase, enhances the research experience through authoritative reference content and a one-stop exploratory search platform that drives usage of all of your trusted library resources. The user-friendly interface is ideal for students starting their research or learning about the research process during information literacy instruction. With hundreds of searchable, full-text titles from the world's foremost publishers, *Credo Reference* covers every major subject.



About Elizabeth Dolinger

Elizabeth Dolinger is the Information Literacy Librarian and Associate Professor at the Mason Library at Keene State College. She leads the development, assessment, and teaching of integrated information literacy initiatives and programs. She led the development of the Mason Library's first academic minor in Information Studies and developed the student-led, peer-to-peer research tutoring program, which provides research workshops in courses and staffs the drop-in Research Help Desk. She co-leads the student staff of 12–15 Research & Writing Tutors after integrating training and services with the Center for Research & Writing.



About Keene State College

Keene State College is a public liberal arts college preparing graduates to think critically, act creatively, and serve the greater good.

- Located in Keene, New Hampshire
- Founded in 1909
- Serves approximately 3,700 undergraduate students



About The Center for Research & Writing

The Center for Research & Writing promotes effective research and writing by offering a variety of services for both students and faculty. Our team of undergraduate tutors supports students working to improve their research and writing, and our administrative team works with faculty to increase their effectiveness as teachers of research and writing. Through this collective effort, the Center and the Library act as advocates for strengthening the role of research and writing in our academic community.

Contact us today to learn how [Credo Reference](#) can help you build better researchers: (800) 322-8755 or CollegeOnline@Infobase.com.

For a free trial, go to www.Infobase.com/Trial.

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