Adding Library Search Boxes to Canvas

There are two ways of adding a library quick search box to a Canvas course. The first option allows you to insert a pre-selected collection of databases to your course. The second option allows you to choose your own collection of databases and then create a search box that will search across all of them.

Part I: Using the Library’s pre-selected Subject Databases

Step 1
Go to the library home page [http://library.sjsu.edu](http://library.sjsu.edu). Click “Articles & Databases” from the Quick Links. Then choose to Browse the Databases in your subject area:
Step 2
Choose the “cross search” option for your subject area. Then copy the URL of the “cross search” page. This is the page that you will embed in canvas:

Step 3
In your canvas course shell, create a module and then add an item to your module.
Step 4
Choose “External URL” from the dropdown menu and paste the URL from the library web site into the URL box. Click Add item.

Step 5
You have added the library search to your Canvas course. Now you can use the module where appropriate. This is what the students will see when they get to the module.
Part II: Using a Customized Selection of Databases

Step 1
Go to the library home page [http://library.sjsu.edu](http://library.sjsu.edu). Click “Articles & Databases” from the Quick Links. Then login with your SJSU ID and your Library PIN:

Step 2
After logging in, click “My Saved Databases.” Then add a new collection:
Step 3
Add databases to your new collection:

Step 4
Make your new collection “public” and copy the public URL;
Step 5
Log out of the library databases. Then add the public URL to a Canvas module as in steps 3&4 in Part 1 above. Use the “External URL” option to add your customized search box. Your students will see something like this (depending on which databases you have chosen):

With the second option, you can choose your own customized list of databases. With the first option, students also have access to the contact information of the subject specialist librarian. With either option, students can search for and find articles within your Canvas course.