

English 317 -- Schab -- Library Resources Session

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Library website: www.lib.uidaho.edu

Services and Help

- Reference Desk Help: Phone, email or in person. Check "Ask a Librarian." Email me directly or make appointment using **Research Assistance Program**
- Barcode registration (for off campus use) and UI email required.
- **Interlibrary Loan (ILL)** for items we don't own. No charge. Set up account. Articles almost always come via an electronic link and you are notified when they are available (usually 2-3 days). You can use the ILL links in the ArticleLinker screens for easy ordering.
- **WSU Libraries catalog:** available through "Other Libraries" link. You can see what journals (and books) they own and go over there. You cannot use their electronic journals from here or remotely.

Finding Articles: Some tips for and examples of helpful article databases

- Many different databases; use **subject lists (pulldowns)** to find, "Info" to see content summary, date coverage and if there are limits on number of concurrent users. For interdisciplinary subjects, email me for help.
- Vendors and search interfaces: We buy access from different companies (vendors). Sometimes we have access to many databases from one company so the search interface is the same and you can cross search. If the vendor for two databases is different, you will have to do separate searches. Search interfaces differ greatly.
- General search tips: If results are not what you wanted, change terms (or combinations of terms) or databases.
- If you get too many results, try a) adding terms or b) limiting the fields your terms are found in (e.g. the word must be found in the title). You may need to use "advanced" search forms for that.
- Some databases, like those from CSA, require that you put AND between terms to narrow your search. Most databases automatically put AND between words. If your results seem different than expected, check the help section for tips on how to combine terms.
- A wildcard (truncation) symbol stems a word so the search will include different endings. Commonly * is the truncation, but not always.
- Google Scholar – www.scholar.google.com : has ArticleLinker links, scattering of sources, not consistent, but can sometimes be helpful when you can't find information elsewhere.
- **ArticleLinker:** In a list of articles from a search, you will generally see a link to "ArticleLinker" (icon, text or alternate text such as "Locate article"). Clicking on this links you to the electronic article or helps you to find out whether we have online or print access to the full text of the article you need.

Magazine and Journal Title List:

Use this link when you have a specific journal or article you are looking for (you already have the citation). You can **search the JOURNAL TITLE** to see if we have access to it in print or online and see the years available. This is not the best way to find articles on a topic, but to see if the library owns a specific article you already know about.