

Biological Sciences Graduate Student Seminar

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Library website: www.lib.uidaho.edu

Services and Help

- 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. Can see what journals they own and go over there. Cannot use their electronic journals from here or remotely.

Some tips for and examples of helpful databases

- General search tips: If results are not what you wanted, change terms (or combinations of terms) or databases.
- Many different databases; use subject pulldowns to find, “Info” to see content summary 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.
- 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.
- EbscoSearch: Has access to a wide range of sources and subjects including popular and scholarly. For your uses, you would want to click on EbscoSearch, then click the tab “Choose databases” in order to see the full range of databases (many scholarly) that you can search at once. In some databases, there is a limit box you can check to narrow to scholarly journals, but it doesn't work perfectly (though it helps).
- Google Scholar – has ArticleLinker links, scattering of sources, not consistent
- Dissertation Abstracts: online, 1861- present, found under Databases by Title, “D”, some full text, abstracts for most, ILL may not be able to get

Major Biological Sciences Index Databases

Name	Features	Company/Vendor information
Agricola	Agriculture/Food Science index, 1985 - present	2 versions: Ebsco easiest
BIOSIS Previews	Very comprehensive, 1969-present. Includes many article citations we don't own (order from ILL).	ISI, with Web of Science, new search interface in the next few months
CAB Direct	More focus on nutrition, wildlife, natural resources, but still includes broad range of topics. From UK – international focus. 1900 – present. Includes many article citations we don't own (order from ILL).	CAB – their own system and a little clunky to search

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts	Many databases, only some are biological. Most are found in Environmental Sciences and Pollution Mgmt. Phrase searching is default. Dates of coverage vary, mostly 1980s to present	CSA
Fish and Fisheries Worldwide	Includes gray literature, more applied, Fish and Wildlife publications, 1972 - present	Biblioline, can be searched with Wildlife database below
PubMed	Best known biomedical database, 1965 – present Includes many article citations we don't own (order from ILL).	NLM. Using link from the library's web page provides ArticleLinker help for results.
Web of Science	Huge database, not as thorough about subject words and abstracts as others, allowed cited reference searching, 1955 – present. Includes many article citations we don't own (order from ILL)..	ISI, new search interface in the next few months
Wildlife and Ecology Studies Worldwide	Includes gray literature, more applied, Fish and Wildlife publications, 1935 – present (for some)	Biblioline, can be searched with Fisheries database above

Major Full text databases

The journal databases are searchable alone, but you will also be linked to full text articles within them when you use ArticleLinker. Recommendation: Don't search these full text databases (except for Environmental Health), but use the article indexes above.

Name	Features	Company/Vendor information
American Society for Microbiology	11 society journals, 1995- present	ASM
BioOne	Journals. Independent society publishers, 2000 – present	BioOne, also available through CSA
Elsevier Science Direct (aka ScienceDirect)	Large full text database, major publisher, many disciplines beyond science, 1997 – present. We don't have full text access to all listed.	Elsevier
Environmental Health and Toxicology databases	Current toxic chemical, hazardous waste, toxicology, human health data	NLM
JSTOR	Journals. Archives of many classic journals back to volume 1. No current issues. Browse list of journals to see biological sciences journals. More commonly used by social sciences.	JSTOR
SpringerLink	Journals. Publisher database for Springer, Kluwer journals, 1996 – present. We don't have full text access to all listed.	Springer
Synergy	Journals. Publisher database for Blackwell Science. We don't have full text access to all listed.	Blackwell