Library Resources

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Hartley Library
The Library Website
Today’s session – part 1

- Catalogues
- Library resources
- Finding information on the web
- Evaluation of information
- Full text resources
Today’s session – part 2

Databases

– Search strategies

– Marking and exporting references

– Saved searches and alerts
Library resources

- **WebCat**
  - books, ebooks, reports, conferences, journals (by title only)

- **TDNet**
  - all journal holdings, print and electronic

- **DelphiS**
  - single search of all UoS library resources

- **LibGuides**
  - Subject guides
  - Library services
  - Resources and training
Break
Where are my resources kept?

Level 3:
Books/Conferences
- Computer Science
- Electronics
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Physical sciences
Classmarks beginning Q and T
Level 3: Subject Enquiry desk
Search tools

- Google
- Google Scholar
- Specialist search engines
  - Scirus
  - OAIster
- DelphiS
- Subject databases
Welcome to the Subject Guide for ORC

Visit this guide regularly to:

- find out about all the useful resources that are available to you to support your studies
- keep up to date with what is going on in the library and in the wider world

This guide will direct you to useful websites, let you know what key resources we have in the library and provide a gateway to the information which can enhance your work.

There is also guidance on using the resources effectively and details of training sessions and support services if you need them.

...and don’t forget, there are real people in the library ready to help both students and staff and you even have your very own librarian who is happy to give you expert help if you cannot find the answers here.

Search Library Resources

DelphiS

Advanced Search

Note: you will be asked to login with your University username and password if off-campus.

Other useful links: Classic Catalogues (WebCat & TDNet), Archives and Other Library Catalogues

Key Databases

If you are looking for journal articles the best databases to use are those listed here. You will find links to other useful databases on the Databases and Websites tab in this guide.
Break
Using the Web

- Use high quality websites
- Evaluate the information you find

Go to:

http://library.soton.ac.uk/tutorials

Evaluating Web Resources Tutorial

for more information on searching for and evaluating web resources
The good, the bad and the ugly

**Good**
- up to date
- accurate
- unbiased
- well designed
- clear authorship
- relevant

**Bad**
- out of date
- no authors
- poor design
- broken links
- wrong level

**Ugly**
- biased
- ill informed
- deliberately misleading
Using other resources

Resources

- Learned societies (IoP)
- Publishers (Elsevier)
- E-print repositories (ArXiv)
- Research centres (ORC)

Things to consider

- coverage
- quality of search
- availability of full text
- ‘authority’ of the resource
Databases

- basic search strategies
- advanced search techniques
- marking and exporting references
- finding full text
- saved searches and alerts
Why databases?

Because they

- link to up to date information from peer reviewed publications
- are usually well indexed enabling you to search in detail
- contain abstracts summarising the articles retrieved
- often link directly to the full text if it is available electronically
Which databases..?

The most important ones for ORC are

- INSPEC (Physics Abstracts)
- Compendex (Engineering Index)
- Web of Science (Science Citation Index)
- All are nationally or internationally produced so there is no guarantee the library will have all the relevant articles you find
Development of optical telecommunications with microstructured fibres
Search in topic for:

- optical fibres OR fibre optics

AND

- telecommunications

AND

- microstructured
Boolean Logic

- a AND b
- a OR b
- a NOT b

Can be used to join different search terms
Repeat search using:

microstructur*

This searches for all the following:

- microstructure
- microstructures
- microstructured
- microstructuring
Searching the databases by topic

- Search statements retrieve exact matches
- Use Boolean operators (and, or, not) to combine search terms
- Use truncation, stemming and wild cards (symbols vary between databases)
- Enclose exact phrases in quotation marks (usually) e.g. ‘black holes’
Anatomy of a literature search

- Create a search strategy
- Identify relevant databases
- Conduct a search
- Check results for relevance

Changes to search strategy needed
Obtain the items from library resources
Refining your search

- New search strategy with revised concepts and keywords

- Narrow your initial search using the ‘Refine’ options on the search screen
Finding full text

- Full text sources such as IEEEXplore
- Links from databases
- Print material in the library
- Inter Library Loan (ILL)
Break

- Searching Databases
- Search results
Searching exercise

- LibGuides@Southampton
  - Subject Guides
    - ORC
      - Databases and Websites
      - Inspec (WoK)
        - Select a database
        - Inspec
Other types of search

- Author search
- Controlled vocabulary
- Citation searching
Searching by author

- Useful for key authors in a field
- Follow database instructions for input format
- For common names, limit by address or topic
Citation Searching

Earlier articles

Key paper

More recent

Articles referenced in key paper

Articles referencing key paper
Controlled (Thesaurus) terms

- Terms added to a record taken from a fixed list (thesaurus)
- Searching these makes results more relevant by
  - avoiding concepts mentioned in passing
  - retrieving material containing alternative terms
Live thesaurus demo – Inspect
Saved Searches

- Search history
- Saving searches
- Alerts
Select ‘Search History’ to save a search or create an ‘alert’.
To save searches and create alerts set up an account.
Managing the material

- Save search histories
- Download relevant material (ensuring you comply with copyright)
- Export references to bibliographic software
- Reference consistently and with the system recommended by your Academic Unit
Further help

- Barbara Dorward
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  e-mail: bjmd@soton.ac.uk
  libenqs@soton.ac.uk

- Subject Enquiry Desk
  Check Library website for service hours

- Subject LibGuides
Feedback

Physics and Astronomy LibGuide

Online feedback form

Enter code ORC2013(TPG)