What Is Library Search?

Library Search is like Google for the library's print and electronic resources. Library Search helps you find print books, ebooks, journal articles, videos, and much more from the library catalog, our 90+ research databases, and from open access journals available online. Also, Library Search helps you sort and filter your results and access the full text of the resources you want.

How Do I Perform a Basic Search?

You can search Library Search directly from the library homepage. To perform a basic keyword search, type your keywords into the search form on the homepage and click "Search." This will take you to the results page, which lists all the resources Library Search found related to your topic. Once you are on the results page, you may revise your search terms using the search box at the top of the page.

On the homepage, you may also search by author, title, and subject term using the dropdown box to the right of the search field. Alternately, click on the Advanced Search link below the search field to be taken directly to Library Search's advanced search form.

* Be sure to type the Boolean operators AND, OR, and NOT in all caps. Otherwise, Library Search will treat them as keywords.
How Do I Perform an Advanced Search?

Library Search offers two ways to access the Advanced Search page. Either click on the Advanced Search link under the search field on the homepage form or click on the white arrow to the right of the search field on the results page.

Once on the Advanced Search page, use the advanced search features to search multiple fields like title and author, and to combine search terms using the Boolean operators AND, OR, and NOT. Also, limit results by date range, resource type, and more. You can also exclude certain resource types from your results, like newspaper articles.

Many of the search features on the Advanced Search page also appear in the limits panel on the results page, which is discussed under "How Do I Refine My Results" below.
How Do I Refine My Results?
The easiest way to refine your results in *Library Search* is to use the limits panel, which is the gray vertical menu that appears to the left of your search results on the results page. Use these limits to filter your results to online resources only, scholarly / peer-reviewed resources only, date range, content type, discipline, subject term, and more.

*Online students, be sure to select "Available Online" to limit your search to full text resources available online.

* Please note, the limits you set in your original search are kept when you change your keywords in the search field at the top of the results page. Use the "Clear filters" button at the top of the limits panel to remove any currently-applied limits from your search.
How Do I Interpret My Results?

*Library Search* gives you a range of information about the results you find on the results page. Your results appear in the white column in the middle of the page. Hover your cursor over a result and detailed information will appear in a gray column to the right, often including an abstract.

In addition to information about your results, *Library Search* provides recommendations of additional library databases that you may want to visit as you continue your research. Recommended databases appear at the top of your results list on the results page.

Use the Cite and Email tools at the top of the detailed information column to generate a generic citation or email the result to yourself.

*Use citations generated by *Library Search* cautiously as they will not include a retrieval statement for the selected result. Use the citation generator in the database where you access the result's full text for a complete citation.*
How Do I Access the Full Text of My Results?

When you are ready to access the full text of a result you've found, click on the title of the result. At this time, *Library Search* will either take you straight to the full text in the library database where it resides or it will take you to a *360Link* resource page like the image below.

For newspaper, magazine, and journal articles, click on the "Go to Article" link to be taken to the full text of the article in the library database where it resides. If there is no "Go to Article" link available or if it appears to be broken, write down the basic citation information for the item (e.g., date, volume #, issue #) and click on the "Go to Journal" link. This will take you to the journal detail page, from which you should be able to navigate to the article yourself.

Similarly, look for "Go to Chapter" and "Go to Book" links if you are attempting to access an eBook.

If you are unable to access the item you are looking for, click on the link titled "Submit a request for this item" to submit an ILL request for the item. Find more information on ILL policies and procedures under the Services tab on the library homepage.

If you are having technical difficulties using *Library Search* or trouble accessing full text for the items you want, do not hesitate to contact a librarian!