2016

E-resources: an introduction

GMIT

INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA NA GAILLIMHE-MAIGH EO
GALWAY-MAYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

e-Resources

Online sources of information:
Databases
e-Journals
e-books
Newspapers
Institutional Repositories

Familiarize yourself with the Library.

Search MultiSearch for books on your topic.

Look for articles from journals, magazines and newspapers.

Evaluate the information you find.

Cite the sources that you use.

Tips

Search The Library

MULTISEARCH - Search for books, articles, dvds, ebooks and more

Type keywords {enter}

Other Search Options:

| Advanced Search | Databases | eJournals | eBooks | Exam Papers | Classic Catalogue | CUAL | Cuardaigh i Gaeilge |

Help

A search using MultiSearch will:

Describe what the library owns	Allow you to narrow results by various categories	Tell you if an item is in online format or in print

Search for books, articles, dvds, news and more in our library discovery service.	Use the default Keyword Search when you want to know what we have on a particular topic.	When you find the book you want you'll see its shelf number, this will help you find it in the library.	For online items, like ebooks, click on the link to read it online or download it!

Other Search Options:

| Advanced Search | Databases | eJournals | eBooks | Exam Papers |

Advanced Search
- Use if you have a reading list or you are looking for something specific.

Databases
- A-Z list of all our e-Resources (Use to search individual databases).

e-Journals
- Use if you are looking for an actual journal title i.e. The Journal of …

e-books
- Use to search only our electronic book collections.

Exam papers
- Search the last 5 years of past exam papers by course.

Why Use Library Databases?

The Library uses the term 'database' to describe a searchable electronic catalogue or index, usually available over the Web.

Using the databases provided by the Library will help you find reliable and credible information from trusted sources.

A database may be dedicated to a single subject or cover several subjects.

You can find a variety of information, including:

- Journal articles
- Abstracts
- Citation information
- Newspaper articles
- e-books
- Images and illustrations

Online Library Resources vs The Web

- You are expected to use authoritative and **reliable** resources for your research. Although Google and other Internet search engines provide thousands of "hits" on any topic, those hits may not meet the criteria your lecturers require for your research assignments.

- It may be difficult and time-consuming for you to locate **relevant** material among thousands of Google results and to evaluate the reliability of the sites you find.

- **Using Google or the web for academic research is not recommended:** the web is not controlled or policed in any way.

I will ALWAYS check the online library before I Google...
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A Library Database ...

Is a collection of information **organized** for simple access and searchable by specific fields such as author and title.

Provides access to archives of **scholarly published** material that are not indexed by web search engines.

Covers a wide **variety of sources** - including newspaper, magazine and journal articles, books, dictionaries, and encyclopaedias.

Does a lot of the **hard work** of the research process for you.

Have been professionally **evaluated** and selected for their authoritative and reliable content.

Allows searching over **large quantities** of data and academic type information.

Online sources of information:
Databases
e-Journals
e-books
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Institutional Repositories

Database Records

Fields {

Title: Harry Clarke and the material culture of modern Ireland

Author(s): Frazier A.

Source: TEXTUAL PRACTICE 2002

    Volume: 16   Issue: 2

    Pages: 303-321

Document Type: Article

Publisher: Routledge, Oxford, England

Language: English

Abstract: This article is 'the adventure of an idea' (Virginia Woolf) rather than a focused piece of argumentation. A drive out of contemporary Galway raises the question of the disappearance of vernacular architecture and local customs in globalized Ireland. The drive ends up near Ballinrobe at Creagh House, a memorial to the Free State's effort to wrestle with high culture's Big House past in Ireland. In Ballinrobe, in St Marys Church, in Harry Clarke's windows for that church, an alternative cultural possibility is discovered, in which fin-de-siecle aestheticism is wedded to native stories and customs.

The records of a database are divided into **fields** to allow the user to conduct specific searches. For example, if you know the author of an article but not the title, you can do an author search that will retrieve all records that list that author's name in the author field.

MultiSearch - basic default search
Keyword Searching

Searching for information by keyword permits greater flexibility. You do not need to know authors or subject headings to do a keyword search. When you search by keyword, **every field will be searched** for the term(s) you have entered. But this type of searching will generally return more records, as well as some irrelevant records.

What if I can't see the Full text?

Don't discount a record just because it doesn't have the full text.

- Check to see if the library subscribes to the print version of the journal.
- Check to see if the full text of your article is available in another database by clicking on '**360 Link to Full Text**'
- Submit an Inter-Library Loan request for the complete article.

Plan your search

- Think about the keywords & phrases from your assignment.
- Consider possible **synonyms**, alternative **spellings**, broader terms, plurals and other endings.
- **What sort of information are you looking for?**
  - Scholarly or popular information?
  - Electronic versions of books, newspapers, journals or other resources?
  - Simple facts or complex discussion?
- **How much information do you need?**
  - A simple answer from one site?
  - A range of material from several different sites?

Search Strategies

Search the Library's online and print resources through MultiSearch. Results from the search can be refined by choosing categories located on the left hand side of the results page.

Refine your search

- **If you have too many hits:**
  - Add other terms or concepts (**Boolean Logic** – AND, OR, NOT).
  - Search a **narrower** concept or adjust the date range.
- **If you have too few hits:**
  - Check your spelling.
  - Try using a **broader** term or concept.
  - Broaden the search by using synonyms.
  - Think about the source. Not all information you want is available online.
- **If you need to do more:**
  - Go to LibGuides for subject specific databases.
  - Ask a member of staff – we're here to help.

Why Evaluate?

You should always evaluate your sources

- When you search for information, you're going to find lots of it . . . it is the quality of the information that is important, as opposed to how much information you retrieve.

- Evaluating sources is an **essential** part of the research process.

- Before you use a resource you should question its **credibility** in addition to its suitability for your research purposes.

- The use of faulty or questionable resources will diminish the strength of your arguments and the overall **quality** of your work.

- Show your marker that you have researched the topic to your full ability.

- Plagiarism – needs to be avoided.

And Now…

The End

is Near

The **Online Library** is your gateway to finding library sources in many formats both in the library and online.

Set up your **PIN** and use your **library account** to make full use of our resources.

Look at our **guides and tutorials** for further information on all our services.

Using **MultiSearch** provides detailed, high quality information specific to your subject.

There is no need to wade through thousands of web pages hoping to find relevant quality information.

Think about the coverage given to your results and remember to evaluate your sources to determine their usefulness.

We appreciate you filling out our evaluation form

Let's see how prepared you are to find, select, evaluate and use information – Try the Online Library Quiz.

Need More Help? … Just Ask: Staff are here to help!

Email us: library@gmit.ie
Call us: (091) 742784