Summer Research - Library Resources

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Libraries at WSU

**Holland & Terrell** – main library, open latest
- Arts
- Education
- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Adult Fiction
- Board Games!

**Owen Science and Engineering** – science materials
- Physical Sciences
- Life Sciences
- Architecture
- Juvenile Fiction

**Animal Health Library**
Veterinary medicine

**Kemble Stout Music Library**
Music Scores
- Reference materials
- LPs and CDs (In-library use only)

Library Facilities:
You can reserve Group study rooms at Holland & Terrell or Owen Science
Access unique computing and audiovisual software at the Dimensions Lab at Holland & Terrell

Nearby Study Fuel:
Starbucks – SPARK building South (downhill) from Owen Science Library. Open 7a-3p in Summer.
Cougar Union Building (CUB) – attached to Holland & Terrell libraries, walk Right from the round atrium. Has a variety of food court options.
Vending Machines – 2nd floor Owen Science Library, walk Left from the elevator/stairs.
You may bring and consume food & drink in the libraries. Just be courteous & clean up after yourself.
Materials available at/through WSU libraries:

Books
Ebooks
Journal articles
CDs/DVDs/Media
Newspapers
Conference papers
Journal articles
Theses & Dissertations
Technical Standards

Checking out materials:

Check out books at Access Services (circulation) desk
Most books: 6 weeks
Juvenile fiction: 2 weeks
Periodicals / bound journals: 6 days

Searching for WSU Library Materials:

Access the WSU library catalog - SearchIT – from the library home page. Type directly into the box in the center of the page.

Unlike natural-language search engines like Google, SearchIT requires you to input your search as one or more keywords.

Tools to help you return to articles you find:

Automatically generate a citation for this item, with several formats to choose from. Don’t forget to double-check accuracy.

Copy a link to this exact catalog record so you can find it again.

Use advanced search options to search in specific fields or search for multiple terms more precisely.

Tutorial on advanced searching in SearchIT
An aside on Searching...

There are three main tools to search library databases: Keywords, Booleans and Symbols, and Limiters/Facets.

**Keywords** are the main topics or concepts in your search question.

**Booleans and Symbols** tell the search engine how to interpret or combine your keywords. Booleans are mathematical linking words like AND, OR, and NOT. **Symbols** include quotation marks to search for an exact phrase, or * (wildcard) to accept one or more unspecified letters.

**Limiters/Facets** are the options you set before or after a search to look only at certain “slices” of results.

Web of Science

Clarivate [Web of Science](https://www.webofscience.com) is a broad science, social science and humanities database.

Crafting a search (“three-box searching”)

Put synonyms in the same box. Link these with OR.

Put each concept in its own box. Link these with AND.

Use as many rows as you have concepts in your research question.

Refine your search results with limiters and facets. Here are some helpful ones:

**Review articles** are those that report and contextualize the results of multiple research articles, rather than reporting original experiments/research of their own. These are great for seeing the “big picture” around a topic, and have long lists of references that could also be sources for your writing.

**Web of Science Categories** and **Research Areas** can help you narrow down your results list to certain fields/topics of interest.
Once you find a helpful article, WoS can help you find others.

Look at “Author Keywords” and “Keywords Plus” for suggestions of keywords and synonyms you might add to your search.

Click the number above “Citations” to see WoS records that cite this article as a source.

Click the number above “Cited References” to see records cited by this article.

“You may also like” (below the Citation Network) shows a list of similar articles recommended by WoS’s internal algorithms.

LibGuides:

Librarian-curated lists of resources that you can access at WSU. Organized by subjects/topics.

Here are some you may find useful:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Education
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Finding Recreational Reading at WSU Libraries

Accessing materials:

- When searching outside of the WSU Catalog, use the “FindIt@WSU” button to check access options through WSU.
- If WSU does not have the item, you may be able to get it through a Summit (Orbis Cascade Alliance) request – log into the catalog to use this option.
- If that doesn’t work, try popping the title into Google Scholar.
- If that still doesn’t work, try Interlibrary Loan. This service is free and reasonably quick – a few days for articles and a week or two for books.

Difficulty accessing materials off-campus?

- This is a known issue when you are trying to use WSU resources outside of the WSU network. Check this link for possible solutions.
Got questions? We’ve got answers.

Librarians are here to help! We are big nerds and got into this business to learn about a wide variety of topics, so we would love to hear about your research.

Ways to contact a librarian:

- Stop by the Holland & Terrell reference desk (through the double doors, left of the atrium) between 10a-2p, M-F.
- Send an email to lib.reference@wsu.edu. Your question will be referred to a librarian knowledgeable in the relevant subject area.
- Make an appointment to chat one-on-one in person, by phone, or Zoom.
- Use our 24/7 Ask a Librarian live chat reference service.
- Check out our Frequently Asked Questions page for help on finding and using library resources, or general research tips.