Ave Maria University- Canizaro Library

GENERAL LIBRARY INSTRUCTION – ONLINE RESOURCES

How to Access & Identify Databases for Your Research

Access to all databases is available both on and off campus through proxy validation with AMU credentials.

There are many "on-ramps" you can use to find & access the scholarly literature across all publication & content types- this Canizaro Library Guide can help you best identify which databases & applications contain the references that specifically address your research topic, question, or issue.

Bibliographic Database Aggregators

EBSCO, ProQuest, Gale – the "Big 3" publish or host multidisciplinary & subject-specific databases that offer both abstract & full text level coverage of journals, books, reference materials and other publication types

Multidisciplinary Databases

These are the initial places to start your research when your topic or question covers multiple fields or to find background information on a topic – these databases cover a wide range of academic disciplines & subjects-

- **Academic Search Complete (EBSCO) -** covers over 5000 full-text journals & magazines

- **MasterFILE Premier (EBSCO)** - contains full text for general reference magazines and publications covering a wide range of subject areas, also includes 55,000 full-text primary source documents and more than 2.4 million photos, maps and flags

- **ProQuest Research Library** - coverage of over 2600 newspapers, trade publications, scholarly journals and periodicals from 150+ subject areas

- **Google Scholar** - broad coverage of both academic & grey literature including peer-reviewed online academic journals & books, conference papers, theses, dissertations, preprints, abstracts, technical reports, court opinions and patents

- **JSTOR** - extensive repository archive of over 2800 highly influential & established journals and select scholarly books. JSTOR's archive covers content primarily in the Humanities, Social Sciences, & Natural Sciences, and is full-text searchable

- **Nexis Uni** – provides comprehensive coverage of news, legal, and business content from over 17,000 sources including print and online journals, television and radio broadcasts, newswires, blogs, and newspapers

- **Project Muse** – coverage of academic journal articles published by university presses

- **Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)** – coverage of titles that are "Open Access" are free but still subject to copyright

Subject Specific Databases

Use these databases for more specialized content and expert curation within a single academic discipline or a closely related group of fields-

Medicine/Health Sciences

- **PubMed –** world's preeminent biomedical database indexing life sciences, medical research & health science literature with over 39 million citations, abstracts of articles & books produced by the National Library of Medicine (NLM)

- **CINAHL Plus** - comprehensive nursing and allied health content, including full-text journals, books & dissertations (EBSCO)

Business & Economics

- **ProQuest One Business** - Offers broad coverage of peer-reviewed articles and industry publications on economics and business disciplines from over 9900+ business publications

- **Business Source Ultimate/Complete** - Comprehensive database with full-text articles from business magazines, scholarly journals, and trade publications. Canizaro Library subscribes to "Business Complete". (EBSCO)

Education

- **ERIC (Education Resources Information Center) -** Premier source for education literature, including journal articles and research reports. (ProQuest)

Psychology

- **APA PsycINFO** - premier abstracting and indexing database covering the behavioral and social sciences from the authority in psychology. (EBSCO)

Religion & Theology

- **ATLA Religion Database** (EBSCO)
- **Open Access Digital Theological Library**
- **Acta Sanctorum** (ProQuest)
- **Philosopher's Index** (EBSCO)

Academic Publisher Websites

Publishers such as Wiley, Cambridge, Oxford, Elsevier, Taylor & Francis, Springer, etc. each have their own search engines on their websites that enable you to find articles & documents from their proprietary content

- **Science Direct** - searchable bibliographic database providing access to full text scientific & medical publications published by Elsevier, including Open Access Content

Artificial Intelligence

The following Artificial Intelligence applications can be used to facilitate literature reviews and identify references-

- **Perplexity -** searches can be set to "Academic Papers only," provides a summary of the literature and citations. Perplexity also provides inline citations for many claims within its answers.

- **Asta/Ai2 Paper Finder** – Find research papers on specific topics & summarize the literature in a research area

- **Elicit** – emphasis is on scientific research, helps end users summarize papers, extract data, and synthesize findings from research literature

- **Consensus** - search and analyze 200m+ peer reviewed research papers

- **Semantic Scholar** - covers the scientific literature with over 230m+ references

- **Research Rabbit** – facilitates the discover of relevant papers for literature reviews, primarily relying on citation networks and AI algorithms to recommend relevant papers across many academic disciplines

- **Claude** – used for literature searches and academic research, aids in organizing, summarizing and synthesizing academic papers

Artificial Intelligence Search Tips

- AI tools are best used as an augmentation tool to accelerate research workflows rather than as a standalone solution.
- Many AI tools provide "citation excerpts"- specific sentences or passages from publications when prompted.
- AI tools sometimes "hallucinate" and provide non-existent citations- always check if the referenced source actually exists and cross-verify relevant details like the author, title, and publication date.

Use the WORLDCAT Library Catalog to search Canizaro Library holdings only or more broadly across Libraries Worldwide to identify any resource or publication

Search Tip- Always use the Catalog's "Advanced Search" template for more precise search queries.

There are different levels of "access" for electronic journals (abstract, preview, full text, access to archived back issues, etc.)- check the Library Catalog's journal record to verify the subscription/access level to these publications.

Check with your Librarian if you have any further questions regarding these resources.