Library Search | Ketu

Library Search will help you to find print and electronic Books, Articles and more on your topic. Just enter your keyword/s, author, or title, then narrow your results by type, date, etc.

- Sign in via My Library Account first for best results (or you will exclude many relevant resources)
- Once signed in, you can Request items or scans of articles, chapters, etc.
- Use the Advanced Search to enter your search strategy

NOTE: Library Search does not include everything that the library has access to, so you’ll also want to repeat your search in the recommended databases listed on your Subject Guide.

Subject Guide

Homepage > Subject Guides > History  http://otago.libguides.com/history
Homepage > Subject Guides > Art History & Visual Culture  http://otago.libguides.com/art
Homepage > Subject Guides > Media Film & Communication Studies  http://otago.libguides.com/MFCO

- Also look out for Other Relevant Subject Guides to identify more useful databases.

Subject Guides bring together the main resources that the library holds to support research in your subject area. Explore the tabs for links to find Journals, Databases, Books and more!
- Also look out for Other Relevant Subject Guides to identify more useful databases.
Database Search Tips

- Use the Advanced Search whenever this is available, to enter multiple search terms.
- Use AND between lines/boxes to combine more than one difference concept.
- Use OR between words to find synonyms, acronyms or equally relevant words.
- Use “quotation marks” to find exactly the phrase that you entered.
- Use an asterisk* (or other truncation symbol) to find variant endings to a word.
- Limit/refine results (before/after searching) to Academic/Scholarly/Peer Reviewed.
- Limit/refine results (before/after searching) to a relevant Publication Date range.

Many databases will let you Create an Account, to save your searches, results, etc.
Many databases will also let you set up an Alert, if new relevant content is added.

Article Link

Sometimes your results will describe relevant articles, books, and book chapters, but not provide access to the full-text. If this is the case, you will see the Article Link icon or the link text Otago Article Link (e.g. in Google Scholar):

Click on this button or text link. This will use the citation details to search across our library resources to see if we have a copy. If we don’t hold it, you can place an interloan request.

Interloan Service

Library Homepage > Services for Research > Interloans   https://otago.vdxhost.com/zportal

This service allows you to request both loans and copies (scans) of any material that is not available here at Otago. We’ll find out if another library has a copy that they can share.

- All copy requests are FREE.
- All loans from Australian or NZ libraries are FREE.
- Overseas Loans cost $25, which can be charged to a department, research grant or paid for personally.

Click on Create Request for copies of book chapters and journal articles and then fill in the request form.
OR
Click on Search & Request to find a record for a book by Title/Author then click on Get It to automatically fill in the request form with the full details for the book.
Article Databases
Library Homepage > Databases http://www.otago.ac.nz/library/databases
Once you are familiar with the best databases for your research topic, you may find it is faster to access these via the A-Z lists on this page, or Popular Databases list (on the right).

Book Recommendation Form
Use this form to recommend books for the library to purchase (print or ebooks).
- Please indicate on the order form if you would like to place a hold on the book (we’ll let you know when it arrives in the library, and set it aside for you to borrow first).
- You can also order books through your supervisor, or Subject Librarian if you prefer.

Thesis Information
Library Homepage > Services for Research > Thesis Information http://otago.libguides.com/thesisinformation
Consult this page for links to support, and help with:
- Planning your thesis
- Finding existing theses
- Reviewing the literature
- Copyright (e.g. using images, graphs)
- Writing your thesis (format, style)
- Submitting your thesis (formatting, binding, submitting electronic copies)
- Publishing (where to)

Research Feed Alerts - Google Scholar
Log-in with your gmail address to set up an Alert, if you’d like to be emailed when new content is added that matches your search terms
- Do a search
- Click on the alerts icon
- Sign In
  Create and name the alert
Reverse Citation Searching

If you find a text that is great for your research, it is always a good idea to look at the bibliography to find where the author got their information from, and potentially use these texts for your research too. This is called citation searching.

Reverse citation searching is the reverse of this, as in, we look ahead in time to find newer publications that have cited your chosen resource.

Many databases have this feature, below is an example from Google Scholar.

Any More Questions? Talk to Your Subject Librarian!

Phone/email me with your query, or to to make an appointment with me:

- Christopher Seay
- Email: christopher.seay@otago.ac.nz
- Phone: 03 479 8976