Finding Research Literature: What, Where and How?
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Outline

- Library databases – what, where and how?
- Creating a search strategy
- Try a search
- Citation searches
- Managing your information
- Libguides and other resources
- Help
What is a database?

- May be multi-disciplinary or subject specific
- May be full text, citation only or combination

Which ones to use?

Databases A – Z list – filter by subject
Libguides – subject specific
Which database for me?

- Refer to subject Libguides
- Read the information on the databases A – Z page
- Choose from the list of popular databases on the databases A – Z page
Searching databases

How focussed is your search?

• Think about your topic
• Establish terminology and keywords - use a Thesaurus!
• Construct a search strategy using keywords and Boolean Operators (OR, AND, NOT)
• Watch spelling variations (eg colo?r, organi?e)
• Use truncation
Creating a search strategy

Sample topic:

*Discuss the role of climate change in natural disasters*
Creating a search strategy

Step 1: Identify keywords/concepts

Step 2: Find alternative terms

Step 3: Combine terms using Boolean Operators (OR, AND)

Step 4: Other search tips
Reference sources are useful for gaining background information for assignments, as they help provide basic factual information, clarify concepts and keywords, define terms, and provide an overview of a topic. They include dictionaries, encyclopedias, handbooks and manuals. Reference items are available in print and online.

### Oxford Reference Online

Enter a search term in the box below to search selected dictionaries and encyclopaedias from Oxford University Press:

- [Search](#)

### Sage Reference Online

Browse [Sage Reference Online](#) for access to the following reference sources:

- Encyclopedia of African American Education
- Encyclopedia of Curriculum Studies
- The Sage Handbook of Philosophy of Education
- The Sage Handbook of Workplace Learning
- Encyclopedia of Giftedness, Creativity & Talent
Creating a search strategy

Step 1: Identify keywords

• climate change

• natural disasters
Creating a search strategy

Step 2: Find alternative terms

climate change = global warming

natural disasters = fire, flood, drought, tsunami
Creating a search strategy

Step 3: Combine terms using Boolean Operators (AND, OR)

climate change OR global warming
AND
natural disaster OR fire OR flood OR drought
OR tsunami
Creating a search strategy

Step 4: Other search tips

- **Truncations (*)** - caters for singular and plural forms of a word, for words that begin with the same stem/root. Eg **work*** finds works, worked, working, worker etc

- **Wildcards (?)** – caters for spelling variations. Eg **organisati?on** finds organisation, organization

- **Phrase searching (“ ”)** – searches a word as a phrase. Eg “**heart attack**”
Creating a search strategy

Final search:

“climate change” OR “global warming”
AND
“natural disaster” OR fire* OR flood* OR drought* OR tsunami*
Database search

Refine search results using filters –

• peer-reviewed or scholarly journals
• ‘subject’ – select from drop down list
• limit by location
• limit by date
Citation search

Web of Science –

• create a citation map
• click on citations (e.g. 7 Times Cited) to see who has cited this
• click on cited references to see who the author cited
• view related records
White shores of longing: 'Impossible subjects' and the frontiers of citizenship

By: Perera, S (Perera, Sunandini)

CONTINUUM JOURNAL OF MEDIA & CULTURAL STUDIES
Volume: 23 Issue: 5 Pages: 647-662
DOI: 10.1080/10304310903154893
Published: 2009
View Journal Information

Abstract
This essay begins with an incident that occurred in 2001, the arrival of a group of asylum seekers from Sri Lanka who arrived off the coast of Coral Bay, Western Australia. It follows these castaway figures through a sequence of discursive histories and representational contexts, situating their stories against practices of embodied citizenship at the intersection of law, land (as territorialized geo-body) and nation, in the United Kingdom, Sri Lanka and Australia, the sites of different, but deeply entwined, dramas of citizenship.
Citation search

Citation map:

Citation search

Scopus—

• click on links beneath cited by...(e.g. Cited by 4 documents) to see who has cited the article
• list of references to see who the author cited
• view related documents
Australia and the insular imagination: Beaches, Borders, Boats, and Bodies
26 October 2009, Pages 1-220

Australia and the insular imagination: Beaches, borders, boats, and bodies (Book)

Parera, S. 
Curtin University of Technology, Australia

Abstract

This book maps the seascape borders of Australia’s insular imagination. It explores how the boundaries and contours of the nation were made and remade in the first years of the war on terror, offering a striking reassessment of the territoriality of ‘the island continent’. © Suvendrini Parera, 2009. All rights reserved.

DOI: 10.1057/9780203015039  Document Type: Book
Published by: Palgrave Macmillan

References (251)

1. Abbas, A. 
http://www.utoronto.ca/polsciandculture

2. Abraham, Y. 
On the Beach: Why the Recent Riots in Australia Should Surprise No One (2005) Boston Globe

Cited by 4 documents

The modern temporalities of transnationalism in dreams of speaking

Political geographies of piracy: Constructing threats and containing bodies in Somalia

Between inclusion and exclusion: On the Topology of Global Space and Borders
Mozaffari, S., & Leitão, B. (2012) Theory, Culture & Society

Recent riot in Australia: Why the Recent Riots in Australia Should Surprise No One
Manage your information

Keep up-to-date:

• Alerts
• Save searches
• eShelf
• EndNote
Manage your information

19 document results

Search within results...

Refine results

Year
- 2015 (1)
- 2014 (2)
- 2013 (1)
- 2011 (1)
- 2010 (1)

Forum

Author name

Analyze search results

Show all abstracts
Sort on: Date (newest)

Document title | Authors | Year | Source | Cited by
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
1. The craft of killing: Trophy bodies and atrocity aesthetics | Perera, S. | 2015 | Critical Arts 29(5), pp. 658-675 | 0

Introduction. At the limits of justice: Women of colour theorize terror (Editorial) | Perera, S., Razack, S.H. | 2014 | At the Limits of Justice Women of Colour on Terror, pp. 3-15 | 0

At the limits of justice women of colour on terror (Book) | Perera, S., Razack, S.H. | 2014 | At the Limits of Justice Women of Colour on Terror, pp. 1-619 | 0
Refine and evaluate resources

Evaluating information/resources:

• Ulrichsweb
• Open Access journals – Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

From Databases A – Z list on library’s home page

Journal rankings:

Scopus; Web of Science
Higher Education
Scopus coverage years: from 1972 to 2016
Publisher: Springer Netherlands
ISSN: 0018-1560  E-ISSN: 1573-174X
Subject area: Arts and Humanities

CiteScore 2015
2.08

CiteScore rank
In category: Arts and Humanities
Percentile: 97th
Rank: #3/120
EndNote & EndNote Online

• A bibliographical software
• Allows you to store and manage all your references in one place
• Stores bibliographic records of books, chapters, journal articles, websites, reports etc
• Automatically generates citations in specific styles (eg APA 6, Chicago 16, Vancouver)
• To find out more → EndNote LibGuide, attend an EndNote workshop
Libguides and other resources

• Humanities specific Libguide –
  » Leads to subject guides
  » Specific information in your field

• Research support Libguide –
  » Help with your literature review

• How to find... Libguide –
  » Useful for finding alternative information resources
Further help....

- **Library skills workshops** – bookable from the Library home page – free workshops on using EndNote, Focus on Scopus, setting up alerts etc
  [http://library.curtin.edu.au/](http://library.curtin.edu.au/)

- **Faculty Librarian** – Marilyn Coen  9266 4279
  [M.Coen@curtin.edu.au](mailto:M.Coen@curtin.edu.au)

- **Humanities team** – 9266 7209
  [LibraryHumanities@curtin.edu.au](mailto:LibraryHumanities@curtin.edu.au)
Any questions?

Thank you!