

Library Research Services

Research Appointments

Meet with a librarian to discuss research strategies and sources for your papers

Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad)

Get articles, books, dissertations, etc. that aren't available at Oberlin or via OhioLINK

RefWorks

Create your own database of sources - collect, organize & edit citations, create bibliographies and store files

Designing Your Research Plan

Consider what to search for

- primary sources
- secondary sources

Consider where to search

- what disciplines or communities are interested in the topic?
- what databases/sites/search engines will help you find their publications?
- who might collect materials of interest?

Consider how to search

- brainstorm the concept - the bigger picture and smaller pieces
- brainstorm terms
 - synonyms, spelling variations
- take advantage of advanced searching techniques
 - phrase searching, Boolean connectors, proximity, truncation, limiters

Learn from search results

- note terminology
- track trends - what's included, what seems to be missing

Keep track of where you've been

- databases, web sites, terms, successes & blind alleys

Deciding What to Read

- Mine the bibliographies of sources you already have
 - note recurring authors and titles
- Read reviews
 - book reviews, literature reviews, or review articles
 - e.g. *Annual Review of Anthropology*
- Cited reference searching
 - Web of Science and/or Google Scholar

Core Databases for Gender & Sexuality Studies

Women's Studies International

Covers feminist scholarship from a wide range of disciplines

Gender Studies Database

Combination of the databases *Women's Studies International* and *Men's Studies*; covers sexual diversity issues and gender-engaged scholarship in a wide variety of publication types

LGBT Life

Covers of all aspects of LGBT studies - includes key periodicals, scholarly journals, books, and reference works

Look at databases in allied fields as well -
anthropology, sociology, education, media studies, etc.

Multidisciplinary Databases

Summon

Searches broadly across the spectrum of library owned and leased content - books, articles, images, etc.

WorldCat

Indicates holdings of libraries of all sizes and types (public, academic, special) all over the world.

Web of Science (formerly Web of Knowledge)

A multidisciplinary database with special features including: references to conference proceedings; cited reference searching; and related records searching.

Google Scholar > <http://scholar.google.com>

Includes books, articles from scholarly publishers, and materials deposited by scholars in college and university repositories.

Conference Papers & Proceedings

Some proceedings are packaged and sold like books, some are freely available online, some require association membership for access, sometimes authors will provide copies.

Dissertations

Can be helpful for bibliographies as well as content.

- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses
 - Provides references to dissertations from most U.S. institutions and many in other countries
 - full text provided for a selection of titles