

Searching for articles or eBooks

Databases

The first option is to search for your topic directly in a database. The advantage of this is that you don't need to search for the full-text after finding an article that's relevant. On the other hand, you may need to perform that same search in several databases.

Whitecliffe-accessible databases are indexed in [here](#).

Advantage: Full-text is immediately available to view / download.

Disadvantage: Only searches the journals available in the database being searched.

Academic Search Engines

Using an academic search engine is a convenient way to search across many databases and journals at once, and while academic search engines sometimes link directly to full-texts (especially [Open Access](#) materials), you will often need to find the full-text using a [research database](#) once you have the citation.

Advantage: The ability to search thousands of journals at once.

Disadvantage: Doesn't always offer full-text of citations.

Google Scholar

Strengths and Weaknesses of Google Scholar

Google Scholar Strengths	Google Scholar Weaknesses
• Getting the “big picture” of the scholarly discourse around a topic. • Viewing books, articles, conference proceedings, and more in one list. • Determining authors and publications in an area of interest. • Tracking down incomplete citations.	• Limiting and sorting results by type (eg. peer reviewed articles, full-text, reviews). • Searching within a specific discipline • Browsing by journal title. • Doing a comprehensive search for a literature review. • Using controlled vocabulary to search by subject. • Emailing lists of search results.

Table 1. Google Strengths & Weaknesses, from NYU Libraries. *Advanced Google Searching: Google Scholar*. NYU Libraries. New York University. 29 Nov 2017. <<https://guides.nyu.edu/googlescholar>>.

BASE

BASE (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine) is a multi-disciplinary search engine to scholarly internet resources, created by Bielefeld University Library in Bielefeld, Germany. As of 2022, it had indexed over [280 million documents from over 9000 sources](#).¹

CORE

CORE (**C**onnecting **R**epositories) is a service provided by the Knowledge Media Institute based at The Open University, United Kingdom.¹

Finding full-text with citations

After finding a citation with an academic search engine or via the bibliography of an already acquired source, it's time to find the full-text.

Option 1: Search [EZB](#) to see if Whitecliffe has access to the journal

Option 2: Search the [BAU Discovery System](#) to see if the journal is available from BAU

Option 3: Use the [BAU EZProxy Bookmarklet](#) to immediately see if full-text is available via BAU

Discovery Systems (Combined Search)

Discovery systems try to combine the two search methods described below by searching across many databases at once AND providing full-text access. Barbaros Library provides a discovery system that can be used to search most of their collections at once. [Click here for more information.](#)

Advantage: Searches many databases at once and provides access to full-text.

Disadvantage: Only searches the collections of one institution and cannot be integrated with all databases.

¹ Source: Wikipedia

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