Contents

1. What are e-databases? p.2
2. Why are you unable to access everything in e-databases? p.2
3. Different types of e-databases p.2
4. List of e-journal databases p.3
5. Finding e-journal databases p.4
6. Search tips for e-databases p.5
7. List of bibliographic databases p.6
8. Finding bibliographic databases p.6
9. Finding articles listed in bibliographic databases p.7
10. Interlibrary loans p.7
11. List of other databases p.8
12. Recording search strategies p.9
13. Contacts & Help p.10

If you only remember 3 things from this guide, remember this:

1. Learning about e-resources will help you study: The library has many e-resources; using them will help you find sources for essays, improve your knowledge and maybe your marks.

2. We do not have everything listed in e-databases: E-databases contain more resources than are in the library collection; only some things listed are available to Bangor University members.

3. User Support Librarians can help you understand e-resources: Come to a library help session, or book to see a librarian to learn about e-resources. See the Help & Support section.
1. What are e-databases?

“E-databases” are online collections of resources, for example:
- a collection of journal articles
- a collection of abstracts (short descriptions of articles and other resources)
- a collection of newspaper articles
- a collection of books
- a collection of maps
- and many other online resource collections

2. Why are you unable to access everything in e-databases?

E-databases usually list more resources than are actually available in the library collection.

For example, an e-journal database might contain 1,000 journals, but a university might only buy 300 of those journals. When you type search words into the database, results from all database journals are listed, but you can only open articles from the journals bought by your university.

Example from the Sciencedirect e-journal database

Articles you cannot access may be available via another database, so check the library catalogue for the journal. If not, they can be ordered via Interlibrary Loan for a cost (see Section 11).

3. Different types of e-databases

1. E-journal databases
Many of the library databases are e-journal databases. These contain academic journals. 
**What are journals?** Journals are collections of academic articles published a few times a year. 
Printed journals are kept in large bound books on the library shelves. 
Electronic journals – also called e-journals – are stored online. 
**Example databases:** Sciencedirect, JSTOR.

2. Bibliographic databases
Some of the library databases are bibliographic databases. These contain titles and abstracts. 
**What are abstracts?** Abstracts are short descriptions of articles, books, conference papers, etc; NOT the actual article, book, etc. 
**Example databases:** Proquest, Web of Knowledge.

3. Other databases
There are also a wide range of other library databases, including collection of old books, maps, dictionaries, parliamentary papers and more. 
**Example databases:** Bankscope, JISC MediaHub.
4. List of e-journal databases

Each e-journal database contains many journals, the library only buys some of the journals. Therefore, there are some articles you can access, and some which you cannot.

All Subjects (*use these large databases as starting point for most searches*)
Cambridge, Informaworld, Ingenta, JSTOR, Oxford, Periodicals Archive Online, Sage, Sciencedirect (not just for science subjects), Springer, Wiley-Blackwell

Arts & Humanities
General - Baywood, Highwire, Peeters, Project Muse, Uni of Illinois
Classics – Brill (Ingenta), Peeters
History – Brill (Ingenta), Duke University Press, Royal Irish Academy Publications
Literature - Duke University Press, Literature Online
Linguistics - De Gruyter, MIT Press;
Modern Languages - De Gruyter, Duke University Press, Modern Language Association
Music: JSTOR
Religion - ATLA Serials, Brill, Equinox Journals, Peeters
Welsh – Welsh Journals Online

Business, Social Science & Law
Business - Emerald, Kluwer
Law - Hein Online, Kluwer, Lawtel, Lexis, Westlaw
Social Sciences - Baywood, Brill, Duke University Press, Highwire, Project Muse

Education & Sports Sciences
Education – Taylor & Francis, Symposium
Sports - Human Kinetics Journals

Health & Behavioural Sciences
Psychology - British Psychological Society, PSYCArticles, Uni of Illinois

Natural Sciences
General - Bioline International, CSIRO, Science;
Environmental: Earthscan, Ecological Society of America, Greenfile, Nature
Forestry - Atypon, EDP Sciences
Geography - Lyell, PION
Meteorology - American Meteorological Society
Marine Sciences: American Geophysical Union, American Society of Limnology & Oceanography, Estuaries Research Federation, Fisheries & Oceans Canada, Inter-Research, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Physical & Applied Sciences
General – CSIRO, Science
Chemistry - American Chemical Society, Chemical Society of Japan, Royal Society of Chemistry
Computer Science - ACM Digital Library, IEEE, NAACE, Rinton Press
Electronics & Engineering - IEEE, Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)
Mathematics - American Mathematical Society, Euclid Open Access
Physics - American Geophysical Union, American Institute of Physics, American Soc for Testing and Materials, CSIRO, Highwire, IEEE, Institute of Physics, Scitation
Technology - American Society for Testing and Materials
5. Finding e-journal databases

1. Choose e-journal databases from the list in section 4. Begin with some large general databases which cover all subjects, such as Sciencedirect. You can also search some databases relevant to your subject area. You could also view the list of e-journals by subject to see which databases contain most journals for your subject area: http://www.bangor.ac.uk/library/resources/ejournals_by_subject.php.en.

2. Go to the library website: http://www.bangor.ac.uk/library/
From the university: In the university, the internet usually opens on the Bangor Intranet page. Click on Library Services in the Quick Links list on the bottom left of the screen.

From home: Type Bangor University Library into Google, and click the link to the library page.

3. Open the library catalogue: http://unicat.bangor.ac.uk/search~S1
From the library website, click on the link to the catalogue.

4. Type the e-database name into the library catalogue
Type the names of e-journal databases into the library catalogue. You can click RESOURCE in the format list to narrow to e-databases. Click on Go to this resource to enter database (contact User Support if unsure which link to click).
6. Search tips for databases

Many of these tips will improve your search results in Google, Ebay, etc, as well as e-databases!

1. Search using a range of keywords: If you use one or two keywords to hunt for research, you will only find studies which used those keywords. Instead, before searching, think of a variety of words to describe the topic, and type different words and word combinations into search boxes.

2. Use advanced search options: Most databases are set to a basic search box. Type keywords here to begin with, to see the initial results, but to make results more relevant, use advanced search screens. Each database has a different layout and different advanced search options.

3. Set searches to title or abstract & title: Search boxes in databases usually hunt in “all fields” which means they look for your keywords in the title, abstract and full text of articles. To narrow the results, use advanced search and change the settings to search only in titles, or title and abstract.

4. Set search options to find journal articles only: Some databases enable you to tick a box to return search results from journals only, rather than including things like book reviews, books, etc.

5. Use “limitors” to narrow results: Some databases, e.g. Sciencedirect, Web of Knowledge, etc, allow you use limitors (a list at the side) to narrow search results by type, subject, dates, etc.

6. Use quotation marks to join words together: Quotation marks link words together, e.g. a search for year dragon searches for both words and returns many results, but a search for “year of the dragon” searches the words as a whole phrase, and usually narrows the set of results.

7. Do a wildcard search using an asterisk (*): Wildcard searches hunt for a variety of word endings. For example, psycho* searches for psychology, psychologist, psychological, etc.

8. Use AND, OR and NOT to improve searches: For example, a search for black OR ginger AND cats OR kittens NOT white, would find black or ginger cats or kittens, but not white cats.

9. Use reference lists in useful articles: When you find a useful article, look at the bibliography (list of references) at the end, to see whether it mentions other relevant studies.

10. Ask User Support Librarians for help! Contact librarians listed in section 12 for guidance. (Marion for Health, Mairwen for Law, Vashti or Jenny for other subjects).

Some tips to try in advanced search screens to narrow results (example from Sciencedirect):

- Use AND, OR and NOT
- Search journals only
- Search title only
- Set dates
- Set to subscribed sources only
7. List of bibliographic databases

Bibliographic databases contain titles and abstracts (short descriptions) rather than full text articles, and there are many items listed in the databases which are not in the library collections.

All subjects:
Proquest (contains many subject databases, e.g. ERIC, PSYCinfo, etc)
Web of Knowledge

Subject specific:
Agricola (Agriculture)
Agris (Agriculture, Environment)
ATLA (Religion)
British Education Index (Education)
CAB (Life Sciences)
CINAHL (Health)
Greenfile (Environment)
Historical Abstracts
Kew Bibliographic Database (Botany, Plant Biology)
MathSciNet
PubMed (Biomedical)
Rambi (Jewish Studies)
ResearchGate
SportDiscus

8. Finding bibliographic databases

1. Choose bibliographic databases from the list in section 7.
2. Go to the library website: http://www.bangor.ac.uk/library/
3. Open the library catalogue: http://unicat.bangor.ac.uk/search~S1
4. Type the e-database name into the library catalogue

Type e-database name into search box
Click on Go to this resource
Proquest
9. Finding articles listed in bibliographic databases

Many articles listed in the bibliographic databases are not in Bangor University Library collections.

Click the WebBridge button to see whether the full text article is available in one of the Bangor University Library e-journal databases.

![WebBridge button]

If not, you will see this message.

![Millennium Access Plus error message]

Check the library catalogue for the journal title, as we may have it:
1) As a printed journal on the library shelves.
2) In an e-journal database which has not connected to WebBridge.

In this case, we do have the journal, but not online.

![Library catalogue search results]

If the article you want to access is in a journal in the Bangor Library collections, WebBridge will link directly to the article. Click on the blue e-journal database name to access the article.

![E-books in Academic Libraries]

10. Interlibrary loans

If you have found an article you want to read listed in an e-journal or a bibliographic database, but it is not in the Bangor Library collection, you can order it from another library via InterLibrary Loan.

An InterLibrary Loan token for a journal article costs £10. Buy a token from library desks or your school, and attach it to the form, which you can get from library desks or print out from here:

11. List of other databases

**Annual Reviews:** Annual Reviews

**Art:** a-n Artists’ Newsletter, VADS (Visual Arts)

**Banks & Financial:** Amadeus, Bankscope

**Business:** Mintel Oxygen (UK consumer reports)

**Censuses and Data:** Agricultural Census Data, Collection of Historical and Contemporary Census Data and Related Materials, Economic and Social Data Service, NBER

**Chemicals:** Beilstein & Gmelin Crossfire, Dictionary of Substances and their Effects

**Citation Information:** Journal Citation Reports (Web of Knowledge), Researcher ID


**Educational:** National Centre for Language and Literacy, CERUK (research on education)

**Film & Sound:** Archival Sound Recordings, JISC MediaHub, Film Index International, Newsfilm Online, Screenonline, Tober an Dualchais (historic Scottish recordings)

**Fungi:** Descriptions of Fungi and Bacteria

**Health:** British National Formulary, Global Library of Women’s Medicine, Health Education Assets Library

**Historical Sources:** British History Online (Maps, State Papers, etc), Cornell University - Historical Agricultural Literature, Great War Archive, John Johnson Collection (printed ephemera), Networked Infrastructure for Nineteenth-century Electronic Scholarship, State Papers Online

**Law & Legal Materials:** British and Irish Legal Information Institute (Case Law & Legislation), European Sources Online, HeinOnline

**Maps:** Digimap, Landmap, UK Borders

**Music:** Naxos Music Library

**Old Books:** Eighteenth Century Collections Online, Early English Books Online

**Old Newspapers:** Burney Collection (17th-18th century), 19th Century British Newspapers

**Old Periodicals:** 19th Century UK Periodicals, British Periodicals, Periodicals Archive Online

**Parliamentary Papers:** House of Commons Parliamentary Papers (1715 – present)

**Poetry:** First World War Poetry Digital Archive, Index to Welsh Poetry in Manuscripts

**Research:** MERIT (a list of the best research outputs from UK universities)

**Social Care:** Caredata, Community Care, Social Care Online
## 12. Recording Search Strategies

This is a way we have devised of recording your searches. It enables you to keep a record of what you have searched, and where you have found the most resources; and also enables you to remember your search strategies if required to write them up for your piece of research.

### Stage One: Choosing Keywords

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<th>The search topic</th>
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<th>The topic expressed as keywords</th>
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<th>Added keywords (found when searching)</th>
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### Stage Two: Searching Resources

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Keywords used</th>
<th>Limitors</th>
<th>No. of results</th>
<th>No of relevant articles</th>
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Please feel welcome to adapt these tables or create something similar which suits your purposes.
13. Contacts & Help

Contact User Support Librarians if you need help using library e-databases. We give presentations on library resources, run hands on workshops, and give one to one help when needed.

Healthcare Sciences

Marion Poulton, Health Librarian
Email: m.poulton@bangor.ac.uk
Telephone: 01248 383173.

All Other Subjects

Vashti Zarach, User Support Librarian
Email: v.zarach@bangor.ac.uk
Telephone: 01248 388826.

Law

Mairwen Owen, Law Librarian
Email: mairwen.owen@bangor.ac.uk
Telephone: 01248 382915.

All Other Subjects

Jenny Greene, User Support Assistant
Email: j.greene@bangor.ac.uk
Telephone: 01248 383572.

Facebook Help


For the Healthcare Sciences Library Facebook profile, search for Llyfrgell Gwyddorau lechyd.

Compiled by v.zarach@bangor.ac.uk, December 2011