

Washington State University Vancouver Library

Library Resources

Griffin

The WSU library catalog. Use Griffin to find books and journals owned by WSU. If a book is at another WSU campus, it can be sent here for you. Books and videos take approximately 4 working days to arrive. You will receive an email at your **WSU email** (if you use a different email, make sure you set up forwarding) when your materials are in or you can call (360) 546-9680.

Summit

The joint catalog of college and university libraries in the Pacific Northwest. If the item you are searching for is not in Griffin, search Summit. Items take approximately 2 – 5 working days to arrive. You will receive an email **WSU email** (if you use a different email, make sure you set up forwarding) when your materials are in or you can call (360) 546-9680.

ILLiad

The online system for requesting items from other library systems. If the item you need is not held in Griffin or Summit, request it through ILLiad. Books take varying times to arrive based on where they come from (ex: Idaho vs. Florida) and you are notified via email. Articles take 24 – 48 hours and you will receive an email with a link to the electronic full text. Note: for Illiad, the email address is the one you put in when registering for Illiad.

Databases

Electronic collections of articles and other information. Databases contain either the complete article or a citation or abstract. If you need the full article and have only a citation or abstract, click on the "Find It" button; if the article is in another database that we subscribe to, you will see a link. If not, check Griffin to see if WSU Vancouver holds the print copy. Still no luck, request it through Illiad.

Some databases are subject specific, others deal with multiple disciplines. Below is just a sample of the many databases WSU Vancouver offers.

Mega-databases	Academic Search Complete, ProQuest Direct
Arts/Humanities	MLA Bibliography, Humanities Index, A & H Search
Sciences	Inspec, BIOSIS, CINAHL
Social Sciences	PsycInfo, Sociological Abstracts, PAIS
Business	Business Source Premier, ABI-Inform
Other	WorldCat (worldwide library catalog), JSTOR (scholarly journal repository)

Pins

- **The pin you create in Griffin works in Summit.**
- **ILLiad requires separate password creation.**

See the database page on the library's web site and EXPLORE.

<http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/libipcheck.pl?dbs>

Database Searching

Databases are powerful tools but navigating them can be confusing. The way you construct your search greatly impacts your results. Each database offers search term options, so be sure to explore them. Several of the most common are defined below.

Keyword	Broad search which returns many records.
Subject	Narrow search that requires that you know the specific subject term.
Author	Useful if you know the author's name or have an author you like.
Title	Quick and efficient way to locate an item – if you have the <i>correct</i> title!

Boolean Logic

You can construct your searches to be either broad, narrow or somewhere in between. Using Boolean operators (and, or, not), you can search more efficiently.

Or	Broad search that returns records with one or more of the specified terms.
And	Narrow search that returns records only with all of the specified terms.
Not	Narrow search that returns records without the specified term.

Database Searching Tip

- **Start with a keyword search.**
- **Glance through some records.**
- **Find a subject term that works and click on it to find like items.**

Academic (peer reviewed, scholarly, refereed) Journal Articles

Many of our databases allow you to limit your search to just academic journals, either on the initial search screen, or on the results page.

Off Campus Access

To access the library's databases from off campus, visit the library's web site (see below). Click on *Databases* (under **Resources** :) or *Databases by Subject* (under **Resources by Subject** :) Once you choose a database, you will be prompted to enter your network ID and password. (This is the same user-name and password used for MyWSU.) If you are having difficulty authenticating, try a different database. If the system still does not allow you in, give us a call.

Need Help?

by phone 360 546-9686



AOL Instant Messenger: wsuvlibrary

by email library@vancouver.wsu.edu



Yahoo! Messenger: wsuvlibrary

in person during regular operating hours



MSN ID: library@vancouver.wsu.edu

<http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/vis/lib/library.html>