


Key bibliographical tools for English & Modern Languages

Bibliographical databases are an essential tool for locating journal articles, book reviews, collections of essays, and conference proceedings. Keyword searching provides references to works published in thousands of journals, even when you don't know the author or the title of the article.

In this task you will explore two of the most important bibliographical databases for English and Modern Languages: the **MLA International Bibliography** and the **Arts & Humanities Citation Index**. You will search for an article by subject and locate the full text of the article in Oxford. You will also learn how to perform a cited author search.

Using the MLA (Modern Languages Association of America) International Bibliography

The MLA Bibliography is a classified listing and subject index of scholarly books and articles on modern languages, literatures, folklore and linguistics compiled since 1926; it currently contains more than 2 million records and covers some dissertations and websites.

- ✂ Connect to the Bodleian Libraries Databases A-Z platform (use the Finding Resources menu at <https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>, or use the Databases link on the SOLO page), and search for the *MLA* using the Search for Databases box
- ✂ Connect to the MLA (by clicking on the title in the results list); you are automatically taken to the Advanced Search page
- ✂ Type the words '*literary theory*' into one of search boxes, but do not specify the field; then type *Wolfgang Iser* into another search box, and click *Search*
- ✂ Add the first five results to your Selected Items list by clicking on the *folder plus icon* to the right of each result
- ✂ You can view your Selected Items list by clicking on the *folder icon* at the top right of the blue bar at the top of the screen. From here, you can print, email or save the citations, or export them – e.g. to reference management software like RefWorks.
- ✂ Go back to the list of results (by clicking on *Back*, top left) and find the details of the article by Winfried Fluck called 'The Search for Distance'.
- ✂ Use the  link to find the online full text of the article.
How many full text options are given for this article?

- Find the print journal via SOLO, again using 

Does the Bodleian have the right volume of the journal for this article?

N. B. You will need to click *View all items* to see the Bodleian's full holdings

Using the Arts & Humanities Citation Index

The *AHCI* is a multidisciplinary index (hosted by Web of Science) which fully covers over 1000 leading arts and humanities journals, and indexes selected relevant items from almost 7000 major science and social science journals. It also allows you to search for articles which cite important scholars in your field.

- Connect to the Bodleian Libraries Databases A-Z platform (use the Finding Resources menu at <https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>, or use the Databases link on the SOLO page), and search for the *Arts & Humanities Citation Index* using the Search for Databases box

- Connect to the *Arts & Humanities Citation Index*

- Make sure that that your search is limited to the *Arts & Humanities Citation Index* by checking that Web of Science Core Collection is selected at the top of the screen.

Select a database

Web of Science Core Collection ▼

and that, in the list further down the screen, only the tick box for *Arts & Humanities Citation Index* is selected

- From the offered search types, choose Cited Reference Search
- Type *achinstein s** into the *Cited Author* search box (the * acts as a 'wildcard' and means that your results will include articles attributed to 'achinstein, s' and 'achinstein, sharon')
How many results do you get?
- Choose *Select All*, wait and then *Finish Search*
How many other articles have cited Achinstein's work?
- Refine your results to articles on poetry by selecting 'Poetry' from the list in the left hand 'Refine results' menu and clicking on the 'Refine' button
- Find the electronic full text of the article by David A. Harper and note the title of the work by Sharon Achinstein that is being cited