Geography

Geography 3500:
Resources, Research, & Writing Tips

Cal State East Bay Library Resources (http://library.csueastbay.edu)

Library Resources: Databases

Use Databases A-Z list on Library’s Homepage, Under Quicklinks

Databases to Use

- Academic Search Complete
- Agricola
- GeoBASE
- GeoRef
- GreenFile
- PAIS International
- Proquest Newstand
- Science Citation Index

Library Resources: Library Catalog

- Monographs and ebooks are available
- Collections of primary source documents, as well as translations, are available

Getting Full-text Articles

Many of the records you find in the databases will have full-text articles attached. Look for the HTML or PDF icons.

If you don’t see a PDF or HTML icon, click on the “SFX” link or button to find out whether the library has full-text of the article.

- If available, you will be able to click the “Full Text Online” link to get the article from another of the library’s subscription databases.
- If the library does not have the article, you can order it through ILL (inter-library loan)
- Inter-library loan is free to you and usually takes around 2-3 business days to get your article, although it can take an hour or up to 2 weeks for some requests

LINK+ (Get books the library doesn’t have)

- If you search the library catalog and we don’t have a book you are looking for, you can click the button “Repeat Search in Link+
- This will search the LINK+ catalog, which is a consortium of libraries.
- If you find the title you are looking for and one of the copies is marked as Available, then you can request it
- LINK+ is a free service to you
- Requested books usually arrive in 2-3 business days
Search Tips

Boolean operators
Invented by George Boole, these terms enable combinations of words to be searched at one time with different results, depending on the Boolean operator used. The standard terms are AND, OR, and NOT.

- **AND**: retrieves results containing both terms (air AND water)
- **OR**: retrieves results containing at least one of the terms (air OR water)
- **NOT**: retrieves results answers containing one term but not the other (air NOT water)

As this is counter-intuitive to natural language that we use in everyday speech, if you get confused, consider this phrase: **OR IS MORE**

Truncation
This enables multiple forms of words to be searched at one time. To capture all of them at once, you insert a "truncation" symbol after the "root" of the word. This principle works in many databases, although the symbol for truncation may differ from database to database.

Example: chromato* retrieves "chromatograph," "chromatography," "chromatographic," "chromatogram," "chromatograms," etc.

Adjacency
To make sure two words are adjacent in your search results, use quotation marks, e.g. "acid rain" or "risk analysis"

"Heatmap" by [xkcd](https://xkcd.com/1130/)

Peer-reviewed Articles
Many of the databases have a limiter so that you can search for only peer-reviewed articles. Peer-reviewed articles are also called scholarly or academic, depending on which database you are using.

Book Reviews
JSTOR’s Advanced Search allows you to limit your searches to Reviews. This is an extremely useful feature, especially when evaluating books to use in your research, also useful for finding examples of book reviews when writing one.

Determining if we have Access to a Journal
If you have the citation for a journal article and want to see if we have access to that journal, you should use the Periodical Locator available via the Library’s Homepage: [http://sfx.calstate.edu:9003/hayward/az/hayward?param_perform_value=citation](http://sfx.calstate.edu:9003/hayward/az/hayward?param_perform_value=citation). Just type in the Journal Title and click Go. You’ll get a list of journal titles that are hyperlinks. Click on the link to see if we have the title online or in print. If we don’t, you can always request the article via InterLibrary Loan.
Useful web resources

Google Scholar [scherol.google.com] Search the web for multidisciplinary scholarly content. Click on “Scholar Preferences” and scroll down to “Library Links” to customize search for CSU East Bay holdings.

ScienceDirect [http://www.sciencedirect.com/] Elsevier journals focused on scientific scholarly resources.

Climate Analysis Indicator Tool 2.0 CAIT 2.0 Source for statistics on greenhouse gas emissions.

Environmental Protection Agency [http://www3.epa.gov]
Defenders of Wildlife [http://www.defenders.org]
Department of Agriculture [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome]
Food & Agriculture Information of the UN [http://www.fao.org/home/en/] - They “collect, analyse and disseminate data that aid development.”

Natural Resources Defense Council [http://www.nrdc.org/]
Natural Resources Canada [http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/home]
TED: Ideas worth spreading [http://www.ted.com] - A great place to find interesting topics about current issues. Each presentation is limited to 20 minutes.

Union of Concerned Scientists [http://www.ucsusa.org] - They are a “science-based nonprofit working for a healthy environment and a safer world.”

World Bank [http://www.worldbank.org/] Click on “Data” or “Research”
World Health Organization [http://www.who.int/en/] Click on “Data” or “Countries”

Access Initiative [earthtrends.wri.org/] Current to 2010. “Information regarding the environmental, social, and economic trends that shapes our world.”

Citation Information - Library Citation Guide: http://csueastbay.libguides.com/citation
Examples of citations in Chicago Style, APA, & MLA can be found here:
http://guides.lib.purdue.edu/c.php?g=352889&p=2378064
and here:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/988/01/

HELP IS HERE!
http://library.csueastbay.edu/ask-us/

Call the Concord Reference or Circulation Desks
(925) 602-6755 (925) 602-6725
Call the Hayward Reference Desk
(510) 885-3765

Chat Reference 24/7 - Talk to a reference librarian anytime day or night!

Email: libhelp@csueastbay.edu, or
Aline Soules, Librarian Aline.soules@csueastbay.edu
Liz Ginno, Librarian Liz.ginno@csueastbay.edu