Accessing NTU Library’s databases & Libguides

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Overview

• Overview of databases at the Library

• Requesting for materials beyond the library's resources

• Introduction to Libguides
Finding databases

1. A-Z Database listing
   - browse by subject
   - browse by material type
   - direct search for database
Library home page

- [http://www.ntu.edu.sg/library](http://www.ntu.edu.sg/library)

Click Databases to search
Access to Resources: Databases

- Search database by subject or material type
- Remember to click “clear filter” after every database search
Access to Resources

• On Campus & Off-campus access
• NTU Network Account Username and Password
Database search tips

• **What subject area does it cover**
• Need to use an appropriate database for your topic
  – eg. searching for engineering standards in **Proquest** may not have many results

• Database you select will determine the results you are likely to find
  – Eg. A search for "autism" will get very different results if you use **Thieme Clinical Collection** (medical studies) vs **Proquest** (multidisciplinary database)
Database search tips

What Date Range Does it Cover?

- Databases usually have a specific date range for back issues of articles.

- If you are looking for articles or research from before that date, you would need a different database or ask us to order ebooks/articles via document delivery or interlibrary loan.

- Eg. Straits Times articles in Factiva only starts from 1989 onwards

- Eg. JSTOR articles have a 5 year moving wall
Database search tips

• **What Types of Material Does It Cover?**

• Most databases contain *scholarly journal articles*, but many cover other types of material types such as:
  – magazine or newspaper articles
  – primary sources
  – scientific protocols
  – patents
  – technical standards
  – images or video
Multidisciplinary databases

• Besides discipline-specific databases like IEEE Xplore and EconLit, we also have multidisciplinary" databases that cover a range of topics
Full text vs non-full text database

- **Full text**
  - Nexis Uni (formerly LexisNexis Academic), Sciencedirect, JSTOR

- **Non-full text**
  - Scopus, Web of Science, Journal Citation Report
Format Types

**PressReader**: Desktop & App versions

**Straits Times Online**: text & image

**Factiva**: Text only
What if the material is not in the database?

• If you need books or articles beyond the Library’s collection for your research, you can acquire it through
  – Interlibrary loan
  – Document delivery
Finding Libguides

https://libguides.ntu.edu.sg/?b=p

Subject guides have tabs highlighting the major databases in that field
Research101 LibGuide

https://libguides.ntu.edu.sg/doresearch/home

Research Lifecycle:
From planning to archiving your research work
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