

# Finding journal articles and journals

Journals are an important source of information as they contain the latest research, trends and thinking within a subject area. As they are published frequently (eg weekly, monthly, quarterly) they are usually much more up to date than books.

Articles in journals tend to focus on specific aspects of a subject in much more detail and often cover topics that will not be written about elsewhere.

Journals have traditionally been published in printed format but many now are also available on the Internet (these are known as electronic journals or e-journals).

### How do I find articles in journals?

The Library Catalogue will not tell you which articles are published within a particular journal or on a specific topic. To find articles on a particular topic or within a certain journal, use the Library's wide range of electronic databases.

The databases provide an index to articles across a whole group of journals within a subject discipline. You can search by keywords to find references to articles on your topic.

Searching will provide you with a list of references to then follow up separately (in many of the databases you can see the full text of the articles by following links within the database).

### Which database should I use?


To find out which databases are available in your subject area, follow the Subject Help option from the Library web pages at [www.brookes.ac.uk/library](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library).

Most of the databases can be accessed on and off campus, but you are likely to need to log in to your **Athens account**, particularly if you are off-campus - full details are available at [www.brookes.ac.uk/library/athens.html](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/athens.html). Occasionally other usernames and passwords will be needed: details are available via the Library web pages or your PIP pages.

### LinkSource

LinkSource provides direct links from a reference within a bibliographic database (eg Web of Science) to the full text article in an electronic journal (if available).

LinkSource is available from within databases that have been activated with LinkSource.

Individual references within the database will have a LinkSource button  and/or a text link to LinkSource. This is usually shown on the brief reference record; however, on some databases it will only show when you look at the detailed reference record. When you click on the button, the LinkSource Results menu will open, usually in a new browser window. If full text is available online, the results screen will offer one or more links to full text sources. If there are no full text options, you will be given a link to search the Brookes Library Catalogue to see if a print copy of the journal is available.

For more information see <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/linksource.html>.

## How can I find out which journals are available from the Library?

When you have a list of journal articles that you would like to read, you can search the Library Catalogue at <http://catalogue.brookes.ac.uk/> to find out if you have access to a particular journal

- At the Basic Search screen, enter the journal name into the Title search box
- From the Collection drop-down menu, select the Electronic and Printed Journals Catalogue
- Click the Search button

**For print journals** the Catalogue will tell you

- which library has a particular title
- the journal's shelfmark
- which years are available
- when the most recent issues were received

**For electronic journals** the Catalogue will provide you with a link to our e-journals service which will

- tell you what years the journal is available
- provide links to one or more Web sites where you can access the journal

Note: You can go directly to our e-journals service at <http://atoz.ebsco.com/home.asp?Id=oxbun> if you want to search only for electronic journals.

## How do I obtain articles from print journals at the other Brookes Library sites?

Subject to copyright law and for a small charge we will photocopy a journal article in print format in the stock of Oxford Brookes University Library on your behalf. Forms are available from enquiry desks and counters in all libraries or from the Library web site at <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/lending/photocopyservice.html>.

## How do I obtain articles from journals not available from the Library?

The full text of every journal article may not be available – why?

- Brookes may not subscribe to the journal
- The journal article may be old and pre-date the publication going online
- There may be an embargo imposed by the publisher which means the most recent issues of an electronic journal are not available to access yet
- The journal may not exist in electronic format

Copies of journal articles not available in print or electronic format from the Library can be applied for through the Interlibrary Loans service. These are usually supplied as photocopies of the articles requested. A charge is made for this service.

For more information see Quick guide 7: *Obtaining material from other libraries* or go to <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/lending/obtain.html>.

For further help finding journals please contact your Subject Librarian, ask at Enquiry Desks or the Journals Office at Headington Library.