Accessing Information Resources at Central Methodist University

A guide to our library resources
What do I need to do to find Quality Information?

- **Overview**: What is your research question?
- Identify your topic and keywords
- Decide what resources you need
- Gather your resources, check credibility
- Reject any duds, refine search if needed
Overview: The Big Picture

- What kind of paper are you writing?
  - Case study, compare/contrast, lit review, position
- How many resources do you need?
- What kind of sources can you use?
  - Print, web, articles, scholarly, etc.
- What is your timeframe for writing the paper?
Identify Topics and Keywords

- Write down your topic
- Identify the main concepts
- Write down synonyms for your search terms
  - Example: You want to write about how juvenile offenders are punished.
Make a List of Main Concepts and Additional Terms To Describe Your Topic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept 1</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>Concept 2</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>Concept 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juveniles OR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Offenders</td>
<td></td>
<td>Law OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolescents OR</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Criminals</td>
<td></td>
<td>Punishment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teenagers</td>
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Boolean Connectors

- The **Or** Connector Tells The Computer To Retrieve Items With **Either** Term.
  Example: Gets articles with (teenagers or juveniles or adolescents)

- The **And** Connector Tells The Computer To Retrieve Items With **Both** Terms.
  Example: Gets articles with both law and punishment.
What kind of resources do you need?

- **Books**
  - Check the Avalon and Mobius Catalogs

- **Articles**
  - Check the databases

- **Web Resources**
  - Evaluate sources and use Google Scholar
Finding Books

- The library has two catalogs for books on its web page
  - AVALON: This smaller catalog is for our cluster and contains items from CMU, UCM, MO Valley, A.T. Still, HLG, CLSTK, MACC, STC, TRUMN, and SFCC
  - MOBIUS: This larger catalog contains items from libraries all over the state

- Both catalogs are linked off the “Catalogs and Databases” web page.
SMILEY LIBRARY

Smiley Memorial Library has long endeavored to provide high educational support and to maintain an accessible, academically current collection of materials and electronic resources to meet the needs of the CMU students. The library strives to promote lifelong learning, information fluency, social responsibility and service, and to serve as an intellectual resource for the university and the surrounding community. It is a great source for music, movies, children’s books, newspapers, magazines, and much more.

Choose Catalogs and Databases for all resources

Choose subject guides for specific depts. or classes

Search from here!

Scroll Down for more Options
Use these to find books.
Avalon Catalog:
Contains books for CMU, UCM, Mo Valley, A.T Still, HLG, CLSTK, MACC, STC, TRUMN, and SFCC

Type your search terms here and hit "Submit"
These are the search results

Click titles for more info and to request an item
Click here to request this item

If you don’t find what you need, click “Search Mobius”

Or use this box to limit to books at CMU
Results are here. Click on a title for more information or to request an item.
Click here to request an item
Choose your Cluster (we are QUEST)
Enter your name and ID number plus CMU

Choose your pickup cluster & location. You can choose any MOBIUS library. For example, if you live in St. Louis, choose MOBIUS-Archway, then choose the library closest to you!

Click submit. You will get an email when the book has arrived.
Finding Articles

Databases are services the library subscribes to, in order to provide access to quality information. They are not the same as web pages or web resources, but they are free for students!

Central Search will search all databases.
Databases

Reference Databases

Credo Reference: An innovative databases of major reference works. Search by keyword, subject, and visual searching. Contains full-text of text consisting of an aggregate of 3.2 million entries all interconnected by millions of links.

Oxford English Dictionary: The OED is widely regarded as the accepted authority on the English language. It is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of 600,000 words - past and present - from across the English-speaking world.

Newspapers

Lexis-Nexis: Includes articles in current news, business, legal research, medical and general reference. All articles are full-text. This databases includes access to major papers from all over the world.

New York Times Current Issues and Archive: This archive contains all content produced by the nation's pre-eminent newspaper since it began publishing in 1851. Please contact the library for the login and password to the archive.

Missouri Historical Newspapers: The State Historical Society of Missouri preserves access to over 100 19th and early 20th century newspapers from all over Missouri. Search by title, town, or county.

Subject Area Databases

Academic Search Premier: Our largest interdisciplinary database, containing full text and bibliographic content from a wide range of academic disciplines. This database makes up the core of Central Search.

A to Z The World Link: A collection of information on countries around the world. Contains geographical, cultural and political information. Great for country reports!

BioOne Complete: A database containing a unique set of high impact bioscience journals. All content is full-text.

Business Source Elite: This database provides full-text coverage of top business, management and economics journals and periodicals. These valuable publications cover topics such as accounting, banking, finance, international business, marketing, sales and more.

CINAHL Plus with Full Text: A database of Nursing and Allied Health Literature provided by EBSCO. Some of the article indexed are full-text.
Which Database?

- **Central Search**
  - Searches all databases!
- **Credo Reference**
  - Reference materials like encyclopedias and dictionaries
  - A good place to start!
- **Newspapers**
  - Lexis-Nexis: all content is full-text
Central Search: Discovery service

Enter your search terms
Credo Reference: A good place to start!
Enter your search terms
These are all the results.
Choose whether to search physical materials as well.
Or by source type.
Narrow results for full-text or peer reviewed items.
Click on the title to see the whole article.
Subject Area Resources

- Choose “Subject Guides” on the library homepage
- Choose your subject and use the guide to find the resource tools you need!
SMILEY LIBRARY

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Click here for Subject Guides
SUBJECT GUIDES

Different departments and majors require different resources. Librarians at Smiley Library have prepared subject guides to point students and faculty to the resources most appropriate to their fields.

Research Tools

Zotero Citation Manager
Avoiding Plagiarism

Chronological Research (searching by year or date)

Credo Reference: An excellent full-text integrated reference database. Contains linked searching to other resources and visual concept mapping. The BEST place to start!

Central Search by Ebsco

A one stop shop for searching almost all library and database content. Uses simple searching and full-text linking to get you to resources faster!

- Aggregated searching for better results! Clickable limits and options in the left column.
- Clickable boxes for peer-reviewed and full-text content
- Easily save, print, or email marked records with just a few clicks
- Use our interlibrary loan form to order articles you can't find locally

Lexis/Nexis: Academic Universe includes business and legal database as well as major newspapers from around the world. All content is full-text.

Pop Culture Universe: An easy to use scholarly source for popular science and popular culture information. Search by topic or chronology.

Choose the area you need

Scroll down for MLA and APA guides!
NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH RESOURCES

Databases

CINAHL Plus with Full-Text: Scholarly nursing and allied health database in a new interface.

- Search using keyword smart searching, by publication, or with improved guided subject searching using standardized medical terminology.
- Combine terms using AND, OR and NOT EX. “diabetes and children” will return results with both terms, “diabetes or blood sugar” will return results with either term, and “diabetes not children” will get rid of anything about children.
- New “Narrow Results By” tabs to improve searching capabilities and provided targeted results.

Consumer Health Complete: a comprehensive resource for consumer-oriented health content.

- Designed to support patients’ information needs and foster an overall understanding of health-related topics.
- Provides content covering all areas of health and wellness from mainstream medicine to complementary, holistic and integrated medicine.
Newspapers

- Use Lexis-Nexis to find news articles
- Newspaper content is full-text
Enter Search terms here. Put titles or proper names in Quotes

Up to date content!
Click on the article you want to view.
Web resources

- When using Google to search, combine terms with AND, OR, and NOT, and use “Quotes” to search for titles or proper names
- Look for authors, publication dates, and advertising to evaluate the quality of a web page
Put titles in "quotes" and combine terms with AND
Google Scholar

- Allows you to find scholarly content in the web
- Set preferences for CMU to link to full-text content
Find Central Methodist in “Library Links”
This will give access to some of our full-text material
In conclusion

- Identify your search topic and terms
- Look in the AVALON and MOBIUS Catalogs for books
- Look in the databases for articles
- Evaluate web resources!
- Questions or Problems? Ask Us!
Contact Information

- Smiley Library
  - library@centralmethodist.edu
  - 660-248-6271

- Webpage