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ECON350: Economic Development
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Using the Library Catalog

Go to the Mansfield Library home page (www.lib.umt.edu). Click on the “Catalog” link on the top left side of the page. This is how you search for books, videos, sound recordings, government documents and theses owned by this library.

Select the “Advanced Search” tab. This gives you more flexibility in your search, since you can combine concepts. Type in one or a few words describing your topic/concept into the first box.

Start off broad, then narrow down your search. Books tend to be broader discussions of research than articles. Begin by looking for “Econ? AND develop?” rather than just typing in your topic or thesis. Remember to truncate with the question mark to catch all permutations of a word (economics, economist, economy)

Keep an eye out for keywords that describe your topic in words other than the ones you’re using. If you don’t have many results on your first search, go broader and think of other terms you can use. Subjects/topic terms can be great guides for this.

Using Electronic Databases to Find Articles

The library subscribes to a number of online collections of articles from newspapers, magazines, academic journals and encyclopedias. To reach these, go to the Mansfield Library home page (www.lib.umt.edu). Click on the Find Articles Link, and then on the Economics topic in the subject grid. Three of the most helpful for your assignment:

Academic Search Premier is one of the largest scholarly, multi-disciplinary full text databases. It contains full text for nearly 4000 scholarly publications, including more than 3100 peer-reviewed publications.

Social Sciences Full Text covers the fields of anthropology, economics, geography, law and criminology, political science, social work, sociology, and international relations. It is full text back to 1994, but is a bit tricky to use. You have to select “Social Science” from the “Subject Area” menu in the lower right corner of the screen. This database provides a lot of book and multimedia reviews.

EconLit looks a lot like Academic Search Premier, but it contains more than 630,000 records from 1969 to the present. EconLit covers virtually every area related to economics and is the world’s foremost source of references to economic literature.

When using an electronic database, it's important to start out broad, then narrow it down. Perhaps you are interested in *women's use of microcredit in Bangladesh*. It's easier to start out looking for articles on *microcredit*, then add *Bangladesh*, then add *women* to your search. Remember to keep an eye out for words and phrases to use in your search (microloan, microfinance, and so on come up as other terms for microcredit). Remember also that you can truncate works with an asterisk (*) to catch different potential terms, so that "econ*" will search for economics, economic, economist and so on.

Locating Electronic and Print Journals in the Mansfield Library

If you have a citation to an article and need the full text, use the UM-M Journals list to find out how to get the article. This page shows both what we have in print in the library, and also what we can get online. Go to the Mansfield Library home page (www.lib.umt.edu) and click on the Journals link. Enter the title of the journal into the search box near the top of the page.

For example, to locate the following article:

Vogelgesang, U. (2003). Microfinance in Times of Crisis: The Effects of Competition, Rising Indebtedness, and Economic Crisis on Repayment Behavior. *World Development*, 31:12, 2085-2114.

Type *World Development* into the search box on the Journals page, and click the Search button. Your results will look something like this:

World development (0305-750X) [Title details from ulrichsweb.com™](#)
in [The University of Montana's Print Holdings](#)
from 1995 to present in [ScienceDirect Elsevier Science Journals](#)

Click on the link to the database to pull up the electronic full-text version of the article, or click on the link to the "University of Montana's Print Holdings," if there is one, to find out where the print version is in the library.

Finding Other Resources

The library has an online subject guide to Economics resources, located at:

http://www.lib.umt.edu/research/guide/eco_economicresearch.htm

This site has links to web and print resources that may be of help as you explore your topic. One of the best sites on the guide is Resources for Economists on the Internet (<http://rfe.org>). This site is searchable and has a wide range of information and links to other sites that will help you as you research topics for this class.

Questions? Just ask a librarian! Call us at 243-6866, stop by, or contact us electronically at <http://www.lib.umt.edu/contact.htm>