

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. For example, if you do an Advanced Search for *public policy* and *welfare*, you’ll get a list of books and other materials that can help you find some social policies to research more fully.

Many of these guides and further info can be found in our reference collection. You can limit your search to reference works via our online catalog by clicking on the “Set Limits” button, then selecting “UM-Missoula: Reference” from the Library menu at the top. Then click on the “Set Limits” button at the bottom of the page and run your search. If you’d like to physically browse through our reference section, it’s located to the right of the main entrance.

Using Electronic Databases to Find Articles

Go to the Mansfield Library home page (www.lib.umt.edu). Click on the Find Articles Link, and then on the Social Work & Counseling topic in the subject grid.

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.

Lexis-Nexis Academic provides searchable access to a comprehensive spectrum of full-text information from over 5600 sources, selected to meet academic research needs, including national and regional newspapers, wire services, broadcast transcripts, international news, and non-English language sources.

Lexis-Nexis Congressional is the most comprehensive online resource available for U.S. Congressional hearings, public issues, legislation, history, and legal research. Complete legislative histories are available in this database.

Newsbank contains news articles covering social, economic, environmental, government, sports, the arts, people, health and science issues and events from more than 500 U.S. regional and national newspapers, wire services and broadcasts.

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. Go to the Mansfield Library home page (www.lib.umt.edu) and click on the Journals list. Enter the title into the search box near the top of the page.

For example, to locate the following article:

Brooks, C. and Cheng, S. (2001). Declining government confidence and policy preferences in the U.S.: devolution, regime effects, or symbolic change? *Social Forces*, 79, 1343-1375.

Type Social Forces into the search box on the Journals page, and click the Search button. Your results will look like this:

Social forces (0037-7732) [Title details from Ulrichsweb.com™](#)
in [The University of Montana's Print Holdings](#)
from 03/01/1974 to present in [Academic Search Premier](#) and [Business Source Premier](#)
from 03/01/1993 to present in [Expanded Academic ASAP](#)
from 03/01/1997 to present in [Wilson OmniFile: Full Text Mega Edition](#)
from 03/01/2001 to present in [Project Muse - Full Database Package](#)
from 09/01/1925 to 12/01/2001 in [JSTOR Arts and Sciences II Collection](#)

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 “UM Print Holdings” to find out where the print version is in the library.

World Wide Web Resources

Current News Sites: Google News <http://www.google.com> | select news tab
Yahoo News <http://www.yahoo.com> | select news tab

Portals or search engines that specifically search for government information are a great way to locate government resources on the web. Two popular sites are:

Google UncleSam <http://www.google.com/unclesam>
Firstgov <http://www.firstgov.gov>

Google or Yahoo’s general search can also provide resources, but use our guide to Evaluating Web Pages (http://www.lib.umt.edu/research/guide/int_evalweb.htm) when searching the open web to help judge the quality of the content you find.

Tracking Legislation

There are a couple of websites that are useful for tracking legislation. Please contact me (see the front of this handout) if you are having any problems finding what you need.

Thomas <http://thomas.loc.gov> Current and recent U.S. legislation
MT info <http://leg.state.mt.us/css/default.asp> Click on “Bills”
Covers Montana legislation from 1999 session on