Finding Information Sources: Philosophy 4950

1/24/18
Matt Jabaily
MJabaily@uccs.edu | Appointments: http://libcal.uccs.edu/appointment/30375
Outline

Introduction to Library Website and Resources
Topics/Problems: Formulation and Exploration
Beginning Your Search: Reference, Books, Dissertations, Articles
Finding the Next Resource
RefWorks/Citation Management
Kraemer Family Library Website

https://uccs.edu/library

OneSearch for books, articles and more

Other Tabs: Databases, Catalog, Periodicals (journals)

How to Get Help

Subject Guides
Philosophy Subject Guide

http://libguides.uccs.edu/philosophy

Philosophy Specific Resources

My Profile (email, appointments, etc.)

Prospector, Ill, RefWorks, Proxy

Slides Available
Topic Selection and Scholarly Conversation

What have you chosen for your topic?
In what ways are philosophers discussing this topic?
What is your central question and how might it be answered?
What are the differing perspectives?
Who are the major philosophers involved in the discussion?
What disciplines are contributing to the conversation?
Topic Selection – Identifying Keywords

Narrowing a topic: Environmental Philosophy → Human/Nature Dichotomies → Anthropocentrism

Identify related terms
- humanocentrism, human supremacy, ecocentrism, deep ecology, biocentrism, wilderness

Identify relevant historical and contemporary philosophers
- Aristotle, Kant, Aldo Leopold, Passmore, Bookchin, Norton

Reference sources and initial database searches may be key to this process
Background Information

High quality encyclopedias and commentaries

In Our Collection

Concise Encyclopedia of Western Philosophy
Oxford Companion to Philosophy

Publically Available

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy
Finding Books – OneSearch and Catalog

Available from library homepage tabs
Most useful resource for finding books
Good for foundational knowledge
Try broad searches for books
Browse nearby books on shelf
Many primary works contained in anthologies
Finding Books – Prospector and ILL

Prospector
- Statewide library catalog
- Faster delivery than ILL

WorldCat and ILL
- WorldCat searches catalogs of thousands of libraries
- Interlibrary Loan allows you to request books from anywhere
- ILL for books or (electronic) articles

Ask Matt
- I can order books you think would be valuable to the collection
Finding Books – Practice

Locate a book that is broadly related to your topic

Be ready to answer the following questions

◦ Is the book available at UCCS? If not, how would you obtain it?
◦ Is the book print or electronic?
◦ How might this book be useful in your research?
Basic Searching

Use keywords in various combinations.

And (&)
- Anthropocentrism AND Norton

OR ( | )
- Ecocentrism or biocentrism

Truncation (*)
- Anthropocent*

Combine ()
- Anthropocent* AND (ecocent* or biocent*) AND Norton
Theses and Dissertations

Useful as models for your thesis assignment

Exhaustive literature reviews

Good for identifying latest topics and areas of interest for graduate students

Full text available for CU Libraries

Previews available for other universities
Finding Dissertations - Practice

**Dissertations and Theses Database**

Find a dissertation on a topic similar to yours
- Go to the database, enter “philosophy” in “Department – DEP”
- Add 1-3 keywords (separated by AND)
- Select a title from the list
- Review the abstract and “preview”

Be prepared to answer the following questions
- What is the central question or topic of the dissertation?
- How do the chapters offer different perspectives or approaches?
- What is the authors conclusion or preferred view?
Databases - PhilPapers

**PhilPapers: Philosophical Research Online**
- Comprehensive indexing of philosophy journals and books
- Includes subject bibliographies and classifications
- Accounts for users and authors
- Freely available for individuals
- Abstracts with some full text directly available

- Search is unusual (automatic OR between words, & instead of AND)
- More community centered than most databases
Databases - JSTOR

JSTOR
- Large, multidisciplinary, full-text database
- Searches full text of articles
- Most titles have 4 year “embargo”
Databases - ATLA

ATLA Serials Religion Collection
• Database focused on topics related to religion
• On EBSCO platform (same as Academic Search)
Google Scholar

- Comprehensive, free database of scholarly materials
- “Cited By” feature (search within citations)
- Relevance sorting
- Great for known item searching and foundational works
- Low standards, computer built
Finding Full Text

Sometimes available directly in database

Identify the resource type

Look for “Link Resolver”
  ◦ Find it @ University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
  ◦ Search for print or electronic full-text
  ◦ Link to Full Text

Search article title in a database (like OneSearch Google Scholar)

Check journal title library homepage “Periodicals” tab.
Databases - Practice

Use PhilPapers or a database of your choice to begin locating articles that are relevant to your topic or question.
Finding the Next Resource

- Identify new keywords and search again
- Find resources referenced in books/articles
- Use Google Scholar “Cited By” feature
- Try searching within citations
Managing Resources

Sign up for a PhilPapers account
- Reading list
- Bibliographies

Use RefWorks
- Keep track of citations
- Store full text
- Generate works cited
- In-text citations
Questions?

Time for questions and individual research

Matt’s Contact Information

- Email: mjabaily@uccs.edu
- Appointments: http://libcal.uccs.edu/appointment/30375