

AFRICA RESEARCH UNIVERSITY/UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA

University Library Webpage

About the Library

Library Mission Statement

We are a teaching library. Our vital information resources and skills advance the university community's pursuit, development and sharing of knowledge.

The Africa Research University Digital Library is a campus leader in promoting critical thinking and information literacy. Librarians work with academic departments to provide course-related bibliographic instruction sessions and embed in both traditional and online classes. The Library also offers a for-credit information literacy class, Introduction to Academic Research, in both traditional and online formats.

To support instruction and research, the Library provides access to more than 330 online research databases and more than 1.78 million items, including books, eBooks, journals, sound recordings, government documents, media items, and archival documents and photographs. To ensure equitable access, the Library provides document delivery service, including scanning journal articles and book chapters from the physical collection for digital delivery to off-campus faculty and students. The Library also meets the social

and study needs of students with a wide variety of single and group study rooms, traditional and mobile furniture, and whiteboards.

Research & Educational Support

Welcome to the Research and Educational Support department of the University Library. The navigation tabs provide more detail on our services, but broadly speaking we help students and faculty with their research and information needs. Our services include:

- General Research Assistance
- Individual or Group Research Consultations
- Embedded Librarians
- Classroom Instruction by Librarians
- Online Instructional Support by Librarians
- Online Research Guides and Video Tutorials
- Predatory Journal Identification
- Library Tours

Contact us directly by phone, email, or chat to schedule services or to learn more. You can also use our help request form.



Help for Students

Are you struggling with your research? Don't know where to start? Does your research project seem overwhelming? We can help!

- **Introduction to Academic Research** -- During the fall and spring semesters, we offer several sections of our very popular, 1-credit hour course, Introduction to Academic Research. Face-to-face and online sections are available during either the first or second session of each semester. Search the course catalog for the subject "library" to secure your spot.
- **Schedule a research consultation** -- Meet one-on-one with a librarian to discuss your research needs. Librarians can help you form your research strategy, recommend specific resources, help you search effectively, and hunt down hard-to-find sources. Follow-up visits are sometimes required for larger projects.
- **Get help from home** -- If you are an online student or can't come to the library, you can contact us for research help via phone, email, chat, or even Skype.

Research Assistance

Are you struggling with your research? Don't know where to start? Does your research project seem overwhelming? We can help!

Schedule a research consultation -- Meet one-on-one with a librarian to discuss your research needs. We can assist you in many ways:

- Form your research strategy, including developing effective searches
- Recommend and select specific research resources such as specialized databases
- Assist with literature reviews
- Predatory Journal Identification
- Hunt down hard-to-find sources

You can schedule a research consultation here (include digital librarian email in link). Set up an online appointment, email us, or use our 24-7 chat service.

CONTACT THE LIBRARY

Email: digitallibrarian@keystoneuoa.com

Whatsapp: +27 69 292 8820

Schedule a Zoom meeting with Librarian: Send email to: digitallibrarian@keystoneuoa.com

Request a Student Free Information Literacy and Research Skills with Librarian: digitallibrarian@keystoneuoa.com

Chat with Librarian

Lusaka
Zambia

Library Academic Research Databases

General and Interdisciplinary

- [ARTSTOR Public Collections](#)

"Approximately 1 million freely accessible images, videos, documents, and audio files from library special collections, faculty research, and institutional history materials, as well as hundreds of thousands of open access images from the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

- [Best Free Reference Web Sites](#)

An index of the web sites included in the 1999-present annual lists issued by the Mars Best of Free Reference Web Sites Committee of the American Library Association.

- [Digital Public Library of America](#)

"DPLA brings together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world. It strives to contain the full breadth of human expression, from the written word, to works of art and culture, to records of America's heritage, to the efforts and data of science."

- [eScholarship: University of California](#)

eScholarships provides open-access publishing services to the University of California and delivers a dynamic research platform to scholars worldwide.

- [Google Scholar](#)

"Google Scholar enables you to search specifically for scholarly literature, including peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from all broad areas of research. Use Google Scholar to find articles from a wide variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles available across the web."

- [HowStuffWorks](#)

Articles at this web site explain how ordinary "stuff" works, such as electricity, car engines, the human body, government organizations, tattoos, etc.

- [IngentaConnect](#)

Free access to citations and abstracts to articles from over 20,000 journals in a variety of subject areas. Full text is available for purchase.

- [Wolfram Alpha Computational Knowledge Engine](#)

Answer questions; do math; instantly get facts, calculators, unit conversions, and real-time quantitative data and statistics; create plots and visualizations; and access vast scientific, technical, chemical, medical, health, business, financial, weather, geographic, dictionary, calendar, reference, and general knowledge—and much more.

- [WorldCat](#)

Worldwide catalog of over 100 million books held in libraries across America and other countries.

Law

- [Center for Homeland Defense and Security: K-12 School Shooting Database](#)

CHDS has information and graphs about security issues across the USA, including shooting statistics.

- [Congress.gov](#)

Search U.S. legislative information (bills, public laws, treaties, and more).

- [ECOLEX: A Gateway to Environmental Law](#)

Includes information on treaties, international soft-law and other non-binding policy and technical guidance documents, national legislation, judicial decisions, and law and policy literature. Users have direct access to the abstracts and indexing information about each document, as well as to the full text of most of the information provided.

- [Find Law](#)

Find a local lawyer and free legal information on topics as varied as dangerous products, employee rights, and small business incorporation.

- [Global Health and Human Rights Database](#)

A free online database of law from around the world relating to health and human rights

- [Legal Encyclopedia with Topics by Nolo Press](#)

Thousands of free articles on everyday legal topics. Our articles are accurate, up to date, and written in plain English.

- [National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature](#)

Indexes thousands of books, journals, reports, articles, and audiovisual materials about ethical and bioethical subjects, including access to health care, resource allocation, genetics, human experimentation, reproductive technologies, abortion, and death and dying.

- [Supreme Court Collection](#)

Search cases (1990 forward) or browse recent decisions courtesy of the Cornell Law Institute.

- [Trademark Electronic Search System](#)

Search for pending or registered trademarks at USPTO.

- [U.S. Code](#)

Search the entire US Code courtesy of the Legal Information Institute at Cornell Law School.

- [U.S. Copyright Records](#)

Search records of registered books, music, art, and periodicals. Includes copyright ownership documents.

- [U.S. Patent Office Databases](#)

Full-text database of all U.S. patents granted and applied for since 1976.

- [United Nations iLibrary](#)

UN iLibrary is the comprehensive global search, discovery, and viewing source for digital content created by the United Nations

Electronic Books (eBooks): All Fields

- [ACLS Humanities E-Book Project](#)

A digital collection of over 1,600 full-text titles in Humanities offered by the ACLS in collaboration with twelve learned societies, nearly 95 contributing publishers, and librarians at the University of Michigan's Scholarly Publishing Office.

- [Bartleby.com](#)

Provides unlimited free access to thousands of electronic books, with special emphasis on classic literature and reference sources. Titles can be downloaded in a variety of formats, including PDF and Microsoft Reader.

- [BookBoon](#)

"Bookboon's free online textbooks for students are focused and to the point. They are all written by highly respected professors from top universities in the world and cover topics such as economics, statistics, IT, engineering and natural science."

- [Charles Darwin's Library](#)

Digital copies of Darwin's library including his handwritten notes.

- [National Academies Press](#)

Free download of all PDFs in education, science, medicine, engineering and more.

[more...](#)

- [Open Textbook Catalog](#)

University of Minnesota has created this catalog of open textbooks. "Open textbooks are complete textbooks released under a Creative Commons, or similar, license. Instructors can customize open textbooks to fit their course needs by remixing, editing, and adding their own content. Students can access free digital versions or purchase low-cost print copies of open textbooks."

- [The Online Books Page](#)

Free, unlimited access to more than 20,000 electronic books.

- [Thesaurus Linguae Graecae](#)

A digital library of Greek literature which has collected and digitized most literary texts written in Greek from Homer to the fall of Byzantium in AD 1453. Its goal is to create a comprehensive digital library of Greek literature from antiquity to the present era.

Education and Teacher Training

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[Database of Award-Winning Children's Literature \(DAWCL\)](#)

- [ERIC](#)

The ERIC online system provides the public with a centralized ERIC Web site for searching the ERIC bibliographic database of more than 1.1 million citations going back to 1966. More than 107,000 full-text non-journal documents (issued 1993-2004), previously available through fee-based services only, are now available for free.

- [The Test Collection at ETS](#)

The Test Collection at ETS is a database of more than 25,000 tests and other measurement devices most of which were created by authors outside ETS. It makes information on standardized tests and research instruments available to researchers, graduate students and teachers. With information about tests from the early 1900s to the present, the Test Collection at ETS is the largest compilation of such materials in the world.

- [InstructionalDesign.org](#)

Contains descriptions of over 50 theories relevant to human learning and instruction. Each description includes the following sections: overview, scope/application, example, principles, and references.

- [History Matters](#)

Designed for high school and college history teachers, this site contains a wealth of information about primary sources and historical methodologies. In addition to syllabi, suggested readings, quizzes, lesson plans, and historical analysis, the History Matters site contains several useful reference sources and "secrets of great history teachers."

- [Center for Homeland Defense and Security: K-12 School Shooting Database](#)

CHDS has information and graphs about security issues across the USA, including shooting statistics.

- [LISTA](#)

Covers subjects such as librarianship, classification, cataloging, bibliometrics, information management and more.

- [MERLOT](#)

Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching. MERLOT is a free and open resource designed primarily for faculty and students of higher education. Links to online learning materials are

collected here along with annotations such as peer reviews and assignments.

- [MIT OpenCourseWare](#)

Search for college class materials available free online.

- [Teacher Reference Center](#)

Indexes over 250 titles from the most popular teacher and administrator trade journals, periodicals, and books.

Theses and Dissertations

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[American Doctoral Dissertations, 1933 - 1955](#) This link opens in a new window American Doctoral Dissertations, 1933-1955 provides electronic access to the only comprehensive record of dissertations accepted by American universities during that time period, the print index Doctoral Dissertations Accepted by American Universities.

- [EBSCO Open Dissertations](#)
- [Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations](#)

Provides free access to thousands of dissertation and thesis abstracts from universities around the world, and links to full text when freely available.

[PQDT Open](#) This link opens in a new window

- Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) This link opens in a new window

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Theses and Dissertations from around the world. Includes the Global Electronic Theses and Dissertations search, which allows searching multiple worldwide databases.

more...

- Proquest Dissertations Search

Provides the full text of open access dissertations and theses free of charge.

Freely available Online Journals

- Free Publicly-Accessibly Databases (UCSB)

Free databases of journals, primary sources and other reference works.

- JSTOR Early Journal Content

Journal content in JSTOR published prior to 1923 in the United States and prior to 1870 elsewhere is available free.

- DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals This link opens in a new window

Click on Search > Journals to limit journals by discipline

more...

- Google Scholar This link opens in a new window

While many articles are behind institutional subscriber walls, you can often find links to open access archives for scholarly materials. Go to Settings > Library Links and enter the name of a nearby academic library to add links to that library's holdings to your Google Scholar search results. Check the Library's web site about public access and bring a flash drive for downloading articles.

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- ABYZ News Links This link opens in a new window



Database is primarily composed of links to online newspapers, but also includes many broadcast stations, internet services, magazines, and press agencies.

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- Historical U.S. Newspapers Online


This guide, created by a librarian at Bowling Green University, attempts to provide links to every publicly accessible digitized historical newspaper in the United States.

- Internet Archive Scholar


This fulltext search index includes over 25 million research articles and other scholarly documents preserved in the Internet Archive. The collection spans from digitized copies of eighteenth century journals though the latest Open Access conference proceedings and pre-prints crawled from the World Wide Web.

- List of Open Access Journals by Discipline - Wikipedia

Freely available Online Digital Libraries


- Library of Congress Digital Collections
-  This link opens in a new window

Access the digital collections of the Library of Congress.

- Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) This link opens in a new window
- 

Brings together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world.

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- eScholarship This link opens in a new window
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Provides a suite of open access, scholarly publishing services and research tools that enable departments, research units, publishing programs, and individual scholars associated with the University of California to have direct control over the creation and dissemination of the full range of their scholarship.

more...

- Internet Archive: Text Archive This link opens in a new window

Full-text of books and other texts available, mostly published before 1923 and in the public domain, from a variety of Libraries.

more...

- Online Archive of California (OAC) This link opens in a new window
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Access to detailed descriptions of primary resource collections maintained by libraries, special collections, archives, historical societies, and museums throughout California including the 10 UC campuses.

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MOST POPULAR ACADEMIC RESEARCH DATABASES AND JOURNALS

1. [CORE](#)

CORE is a multidisciplinary aggregator of OA research. CORE has the largest collection of OA articles available. It allows users to search more than 219 million OA articles. While most of these link to the full-text article on the original publisher's site, or to a PDF available for download, five million records are hosted directly on CORE.

CORE's mission statement is a simple and straightforward commitment to offering OA articles to anyone, anywhere in the world. They also host communities that are available for researchers to join and an ambassador community to enhance their services globally. In addition to a straightforward keyword search, CORE offers advanced search options to filter results by publication type, year, language, journal, repository, and author.

CORE's user interface is easy to use and navigate. Search results can be sorted based on relevance or recency, and you can search for relevant content directly from the results screen.

Collection: 219,537,133 OA articles

Other Services: Additional services are available from CORE, with extras that are geared toward researchers, repositories, and businesses. There are tools for accessing raw data, including an API that provides direct access to data, datasets that are available for download, and FastSync for syncing data content from the CORE database.

CORE has a recommender plug-in that suggests relevant OA content in the database while conducting a search and a discovery feature that helps you discover OA versions of paywalled articles. Other features include tools for managing content, such as a dashboard for managing repository output and the Repository Edition service to enhance discoverability.

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Language, author, journal, publisher, repository, DOI, year

2. [ScienceOpen](#)

Functioning as a research and publishing network, ScienceOpen offers OA to more than 74 million articles in all areas of science. Although you do need to register to view the full text of articles, registration is free. The advanced search function is highly detailed, allowing you to find exactly the research you're looking for.

The Berlin- and Boston-based company was founded in 2013 to "facilitate open and public communications between academics and to allow ideas to be judged on their merit, regardless of where they come from." Search results can be exported for easy integration with reference management systems.

You can also bookmark articles for later research. There are extensive networking options, including your Science Open profile, a forum for interacting with other researchers, the ability to track your usage and citations, and an interactive bibliography. Users have the ability to review articles and provide their knowledge and insight within the community.

Collection: 74,560,631

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Content type, source, author, journal, discipline

3. [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)

A multidisciplinary, community-curated directory, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) gives researchers access to high-quality peer-reviewed journals. It has archived more than two million articles from 17,193 journals, allowing you to either browse by subject or search by keyword.

The site was launched in 2003 with the aim of increasing the visibility of OA scholarly journals online. Content on the site covers subjects from science, to law, to fine arts, and everything in between. DOAJ has a commitment to "increase the visibility, accessibility, reputation, usage and impact of quality, peer-reviewed, OA scholarly research journals globally, regardless of discipline, geography or language."

Information about the journal is available with each search result. Abstracts are also available in a collapsible format directly from the search screen. The scholarly article website is somewhat simple, but it is easy to navigate. There are 16 principles of transparency and best practices in scholarly publishing that clearly outline DOAJ policies and standards.

Collection: 6,817,242

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Subject, journal, year

4. [Education Resources Information Center](#)

The Education Resources Information Center (ERIC) of the Institution of Education Sciences allows you to search by topic for material related to the field of education. Links lead to other sites, where you may have to purchase the information, but you can search for full-text articles only. You can also search only peer-reviewed sources.

The service primarily indexes journals, gray literature (such as technical reports, white papers, and government documents), and books. All sources of material on ERIC go through a formal review process prior to being indexed. ERIC's selection policy is available as a PDF on their website.

The ERIC website has an extensive FAQ section to address user questions. This includes categories like general questions, peer review, and ERIC content. There are also tips for advanced searches, as well as general guidance on the best way to search the database. ERIC is an excellent database for content specific to education.

Collection: 1,292,897

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Boolean

5. [arXiv e-Print Archive](#)

The arXiv e-Print Archive is run by Cornell University Library and curated by volunteer moderators, and it now offers OA to more than one million e-prints.

There are advisory committees for all eight subjects available on the database. With a stated commitment to an "emphasis on openness, collaboration, and scholarship," the arXiv e-Print Archive is an excellent STEM resource.

The interface is not as user-friendly as some of the other databases available, and the website hosts a blog to provide news and updates, but it is otherwise a straightforward math and science resource. There are simple and advanced search options, and, in addition to conducting searches for specific topics and articles, users can browse content by subject. The arXiv e-Print Archive clearly states that they do not peer review the e-prints in the database.

Collection: 1,983,891

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: Subject, date, title, author, abstract, DOI

6. [Social Science Research Network](#)

The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) is a collection of papers from the social sciences community. It is a highly interdisciplinary platform used to search for scholarly articles related to 67 social science topics. SSRN has a variety of research networks for the various topics available through the free scholarly database.

The site offers more than 700,000 abstracts and more than 600,000 full-text papers. There is not yet a specific option to search for only full-text articles, but, because most of the papers on the site are free access, it's not often that you encounter a paywall. There is currently no option to search for only peer-reviewed articles.

You must become a member to use the services, but registration is free and enables you to interact with other scholars around the world. SSRN is "passionately committed to increasing inclusion, diversity and equity in scholarly research," and they encourage and discuss the use of inclusive language in scholarship whenever possible.

Collection: 1,058,739 abstracts; 915,452 articles

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Term, author, date, network

7. [Public Library of Science](#)

Public Library of Science (PLOS) is a big player in the world of OA science. Publishing 12 OA journals, the nonprofit organization is committed to facilitating openness in academic research. According to the site, "all PLOS content is at the highest possible level of OA, meaning that scientific articles are immediately and freely available to anyone, anywhere."

PLOS outlines four fundamental goals that guide the organization: break boundaries, empower researchers, redefine quality, and open science. All PLOS journals are peer-reviewed, and all 12 journals uphold rigorous ethical standards for research, publication, and scientific reporting.

PLOS does not offer advanced search options. Content is organized by topic into research communities that users can browse through, in addition to options to search for both articles and journals. The PLOS website also has resources for peer reviewers, including guidance on becoming a reviewer and on how to best participate in the peer review process.

Collection: 12 journals

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: None

8. [OpenDOAR](#)

OpenDOAR, or the Directory of Open Access Repositories, is a comprehensive resource for finding free OA journals and articles. Using Google Custom Search, OpenDOAR combs through OA repositories around the world and returns relevant research in all disciplines.

The repositories it searches through are assessed and categorized by OpenDOAR staff to ensure they meet quality standards. Inclusion criteria for the database include requirements for OA content, global access, and categorically appropriate content, in addition to various other quality assurance measures. OpenDOAR has metadata, data, content, preservation, and submission policies for repositories, in addition to two OA policy statements regarding minimum and optimum recommendations.

This database allows users to browse and search repositories, which can then be selected, and articles and data can be accessed from the repository directly. As a repository database, much of the content on the site is geared toward the support of repositories and OA standards.

Collection: 5,768 repositories

Other Services: OpenDOAR offers a variety of additional services. Given the nature of the platform, services are primarily aimed at repositories and institutions, and there is a marked focus on OA in general. Sherpa services are OA archiving tools for authors and institutions.

They also offer various resources for OA support and compliance regarding standards and policies. The publication router matches publications and publishers with appropriate repositories.

There are also services and resources from JISC for repositories for cost management, discoverability, research impact, and interoperability, including ORCID consortium membership information. Additionally, a repository self-assessment tool is available for members.

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: Name, organization name, repository type, software name, content type, subject, country, region

9. [Bielefeld Academic Search Engine](#)

The Bielefeld Academic Search Engine (BASE) is operated by the Bielefeld University Library in Germany, and it offers more than 240 million documents from more than 8,000 sources. Sixty percent of its content is OA, and you can filter your search accordingly.

BASE has rigorous inclusion requirements for content providers regarding quality and relevance, and they maintain a list of content providers for the sake of transparency, which can be easily found on their website. BASE has a fairly elegant interface. Search results can be organized by author, title, or date.

From the search results, items can be selected and exported, added to favorites, emailed, and searched in Google Scholar. There are basic and advanced search features, with the advanced search offering numerous options for refining search criteria. There is also a feature on the website that saves recent searches without additional steps from the user.

Collection: 276,019,066 documents; 9,286 content providers

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Author, subject, year, content provider, language, document type, access, terms of reuse

10. [Digital Library of the Commons Repository](#)

Run by Indiana University, the Digital Library of the Commons (DLC) Repository is a multidisciplinary journal repository that allows users to access thousands of free and OA articles from around the world. You can browse by document type, date, author, title, and more or search for keywords relevant to your topic.

DCL also offers the Comprehensive Bibliography of the Commons, an image database, and a keyword thesaurus for enhanced search parameters. The repository includes books, book chapters, conference papers, journal articles, surveys, theses and dissertations, and working papers. DCL advanced search features drop-down menus of search types with built-in Boolean search options.

Searches can be sorted by relevance, title, date, or submission date in ascending or descending order. Abstracts are included in selected search results, with access to full texts available, and citations can be exported from the same page. Additionally, the image database search includes tips for better search results.

Collection: 10,784

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: Author, date, title, subject, sector, region, conference

11. [CIA World Factbook](#)

The CIA World Factbook is a little different from the other resources on this list in that it is not an online journal directory or repository. It is, however, a useful free online research database for academics in a variety of disciplines.

All the information is free to access, and it provides facts about every country in the world, which are organized by category and include information about history, geography, transportation, and much more. The World Factbook can be searched by country or region, and there is also information about the world's oceans.

This site contains resources related to the CIA as an organization rather than being a scientific journal database specifically. The site has a user interface that is easy to navigate. The site also provides a section for updates regarding changes to what information is available and how it is organized, making it easier to interact with the information you are searching for.

Collection: 266 countries

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: None

12. [Paperity](#)

Paperity boasts its status as the "first multidisciplinary aggregator of OA journals and papers." Their focus is on helping you avoid paywalls while connecting you to authoritative research. In addition to providing readers with easy access to thousands of journals, Paperity seeks to help authors reach their audiences and help journals increase their exposure to boost readership.

Paperity has journal articles for every discipline, and the database offers more than a dozen advanced search options, including the length of the paper and the number of authors. There is even an option to include, exclude, or exclusively search gray papers.

Paperity is available for mobile, with both a mobile site and the Paperity Reader, an app that is available for both Android and Apple users. The database is also available on social media. You can interact with Paperity via Twitter and Facebook, and links to their social media are available on their homepage, including their Twitter feed.

Collection: 8,837,396

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Title, abstract, journal title, journal ISSN, publisher, year of publication, number of characters, number of authors, DOI, author, affiliation, language, country, region, continent, gray papers

13. [dblp Computer Science Bibliography](#)

The dblp Computer Science Bibliography is an online index of major computer science publications. dblp was founded in 1993, though until 2010 it was a university-specific database at the University of Trier in Germany. It is currently maintained by the Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz Center for Informatics.

Although it provides access to both OA articles and those behind a paywall, you can limit your search to only OA articles. The site indexes more than three million publications, making it an invaluable resource in the world of computer science. dblp entries are color-coded based on the type of item.

dblp has an extensive FAQ section, so questions that might arise about topics like the database itself, navigating the website, or the data on dblp, in addition to several other topics, are likely to be answered. The website also hosts a blog and has a section devoted to website statistics.

Collection: 5,884,702

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: None

14. [EconBiz](#)

EconBiz is a great resource for economic and business studies. A service of the Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, it offers access to full texts online, with the option of searching for OA material only. Their literature search is performed across multiple international databases.

EconBiz has an incredibly useful research skills section, with resources such as Guided Walk, a service to help students and researchers navigate searches, evaluate sources, and correctly cite references; the Research Guide EconDesk, a help desk to answer specific questions and provide advice to aid in literature searches; and the Academic Career Kit for what they refer to as Early Career Researchers.

Other helpful resources include personal literature lists, a calendar of events for relevant calls for papers, conferences, and workshops, and an economics terminology thesaurus to help in finding keywords for searches. To stay up-to-date with EconBiz, you can sign up for their newsletter.

Collection: 1,075,219

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Title, subject, author, institution, ISBN/ISSN, journal, publisher, language, OA only

15. [BioMed Central](#)

BioMed Central provides OA research from more than 300 peer-reviewed journals. While originally focused on resources related to the physical sciences, math, and engineering, BioMed Central has branched out to include journals that cover a broader range of disciplines, with the aim of providing a single platform that provides OA articles for a variety of research needs. You can browse these journals by subject or title, or you can search all articles for your required keyword.

BioMed Central has a commitment to peer-reviewed sources and to the peer review process itself, continually seeking to help and improve the peer review process. They're "committed to maintaining high standards through full and stringent peer review." They

publish the journal *Research Integrity and Peer Review*, which publishes research on the subject.

Additionally, the website includes resources to assist and support editors as part of their commitment to providing high-quality, peer-reviewed OA articles.

Collection: 507,212

Other Services: BMC administers the International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number (ISRCTN) registry. While initially designed for registering clinical trials, since its creation in 2000, the registry has broadened its scope to include other health studies as well.

The registry is recognized by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, as well as the World Health Organization (WHO), and it meets the requirements established by the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform.

The study records included in the registry are all searchable and free to access. The ISRCTN registry "supports transparency in clinical research, helps reduce selective reporting of results and ensures an unbiased and complete evidence base."

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Author, title, journal, list

16. [JURN](#)

A multidisciplinary search engine, JURN provides links to various scholarly websites, articles, and journals that are free to access or OA. Covering the fields of the arts, humanities, business, law, nature, science, and medicine, JURN has indexed almost 5,000 repositories to help you find exactly what you're looking for.

Search features are enhanced by Google, but searches are filtered through their index of repositories. JURN seeks to reach a wide audience, with their search engine tailored to researchers from "university lecturers and students seeking a strong search tool for OA content" and "advanced and ambitious students, age 14-18" to "amateur historians and biographers" and "unemployed and retired lecturers."

That being said, JURN is very upfront about its limitations. They admit to not being a good resource for educational studies, social studies, or psychology, and conference archives are generally not included due to frequently unstable URLs.

Collection: 5,064 indexed journals

Other Services: JURN has a browser add-on called UserScript. This add-on allows users to integrate the JURN database directly into Google Search. When performing a search through Google, the add-on creates a link that sends the search directly to JURN CSE. JURN CSE is a search service that is hosted by Google.

Clicking the link from the Google Search bar will run your search through the JURN database from the Google homepage. There is also an interface for a DuckDuckGo search box; while this search engine has an emphasis on user privacy, for smaller sites that may be indexed by JURN, DuckDuckGo may not provide the same depth of results.

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Google search modifiers

17. [Dryad](#)

Dryad is a digital repository of curated, OA scientific research data. Launched in 2009, it is run by a not-for-profit membership organization, with a community of institutional and publisher members for whom their services have been designed. Members include institutions such as Stanford, UCLA, and Yale, as well as publishers like Oxford University Press and Wiley.

Dryad aims to "promote a world where research data is openly available, integrated with the scholarly literature, and routinely reused to create knowledge." It is free to access for the search and discovery of data. Their user experience is geared toward easy self-depositing, supports Creative Commons licensing, and provides DOIs for all their content.

Note that there is a publishing charge associated if you wish to publish your data in Dryad. When searching datasets, they are accompanied by author information and abstracts for the associated studies, and citation information is provided for easy attribution.

Collection: 44,458

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: No

18. [EThOS](#)

Run by the British Library, the E-Theses Online Service (EThOS) allows you to search over 500,000 doctoral theses in a variety of disciplines. All of the doctoral theses available on EThOS have been awarded by higher education institutions in the United Kingdom.

Although some full texts are behind paywalls, you can limit your search to items available for immediate download, either directly through EThOS or through an institution's website. More than half of the records in the database provide access to full-text theses.

EThOS notes that they do not hold all records for all institutions, but they strive to index as many doctoral theses as possible, and the database is constantly expanding, with approximately 3,000 new records added and 2,000 new full-text theses available every month. The availability of full-text theses is dependent on multiple factors, including their availability in the institutional repository and the level of repository development.

Collection: 500,000+

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: Abstract, author's first name, author's last name, awarding body, current institution, EThOS ID, year, language, qualifications, research supervisor, sponsor/funder, keyword, title

19. [PubMed](#)

PubMed is a research platform well-known in the fields of science and medicine. It was created and developed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the National Library of Medicine (NLM). It has been available since 1996 and offers access to "more than 33 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books."

While PubMed does not provide full-text articles directly, and many full-text articles may be behind paywalls or require subscriptions to access them, when articles are available from free sources, such as through PubMed Central (PMC), those links are provided with the citations and abstracts that PubMed does provide.

PMC, which was established in 2000 by the NLM, is a free full-text archive that includes more than 6,000,000 records. PubMed records link directly to corresponding PMC results.

PMC content is provided by publishers and other content owners, digitization projects, and authors directly.

Collection: 33,000,000+

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: No

Advanced Search Options: Author's first name, author's last name, identifier, corporation, date completed, date created, date entered, date modified, date published, MeSH, book, conflict of interest statement, EC/RN number, editor, filter, grant number, page number, pharmacological action, volume, publication type, publisher, secondary source ID, text, title, abstract, transliterated title

20. [Semantic Scholar](#)

A unique and easy-to-use resource, Semantic Scholar defines itself not just as a research database but also as a "search and discovery tool." Semantic Scholar harnesses the power of artificial intelligence to efficiently sort through millions of science-related papers based on your search terms.

Through this singular application of machine learning, Semantic Scholar expands search results to include topic overviews based on your search terms, with the option to create an alert for or further explore the topic. It also provides links to related topics.

In addition, search results produce "TLDR" summaries in order to provide concise overviews of articles and enhance your research by helping you to navigate quickly and easily through the available literature to find the most relevant information. According to the site, although some articles are behind paywalls, "the data [they] have for those articles is limited," so you can expect to receive mostly full-text results.

Collection: 203,379,033

Other Services: Semantic Scholar supports multiple popular browsers. Content can be accessed through both mobile and desktop versions of Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, Apple Safari, and Opera.

Additionally, Semantic Scholar provides browser extensions for both Chrome and Firefox, so AI-powered scholarly search results are never more than a click away. The mobile interface includes an option for Semantic Swipe, a new way of interacting with your research results.

There are also beta features that can be accessed as part of the Beta Program, which will provide you with features that are being actively developed and require user feedback for further improvement.

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Field of study, date range, publication type, author, journal, conference, PDF

21. [Zenodo](#)

Zenodo, powered by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), was launched in 2013. Taking its name from Zenodotus, the first librarian of the ancient library of Alexandria, Zenodo is a tool "built and developed by researchers, to ensure that everyone can join in open science." Zenodo accepts all research from every discipline in any file format.

However, Zenodo also curates uploads and promotes peer-reviewed material that is available through OA. A DOI is assigned to everything that is uploaded to Zenodo, making research easily findable and citable. You can sort by keyword, title, journal, and more and download OA documents directly from the site.

While there are closed access and restricted access items in the database, the vast majority of research is OA material. Search results can be filtered by access type, making it easy to view the free articles available in the database.

Collection: 2,220,000+

Other Services: None

Good Source of Peer-Reviewed Articles: Yes

Advanced Search Options: Access, file type, keywords