Using databases: accessing full text

In the previous video we showed you basic techniques for database searching. In this video, we will take you through a range of options for accessing the full text of the articles you find.

Different databases facilitate this in different ways. You will see a variety of buttons which will lead you to the full text.

Some databases such as Web of Science and Scopus have ‘Check for full text’ buttons. [On screen a Scopus record is displayed, and the **Check for Full text** link is selected].

If the University subscribes to the journal in which the article appears, or the journal is an open access title, you will be able to follow the links to access the full text. [On screen in the Scopus record a **Download PDF** option appears as well as a link to **Online access** which opens the journal].

Other databases such as ABI and JSTOR have prominent download buttons providing access to the full text. [On screen JSTOR search results are displayed with the **Download** button on the right of the screen next to each result. This is selected and then a PDF of the article is shown].

Cardiff University has access to thousands of electronic journals via subscription or open access. However, you will occasionally find you can’t access an article as it does not fall into these categories. In which case, you will be linked to the LibrarySearch catalogue which will suggest alternatives which may include a print copy or requesting the article via Inter Library Loan. [On screen a PubMed.gov article is displayed. **Check for Full text** is clicked and the LibrarySearch record opens for that article].

To request an inter library loan, click the link. [On screen under **How to get it,** **Inter library loan** is selected and a form appears]. The publication details have been added for you, so complete the remaining required parts of the form and then Send Request. [On screen the **Pickup location** is selected as ‘Arts and Social Sciences Library’, the **Copyright declaration** is ticked and **Send Request** at the bottom of the form selected].

The requested article, as long as it’s available, will be emailed to you as soon as possible.

Lean Library

To streamline access to full text, you can install the Lean Library and LibKey Nomad browser extensions which you can find on the intranet.

Lean Library links to open access articles or our subscribed content. It offers pop up messages steering you to full text ebooks and articles where available. [On screen an open access article is shown and a pop-up window with the Cardiff University logo is displayed on the right of the screen with an **Access article** link] If not, you will be directed to our Inter Library Loan form.

LibKey Nomad

Like Lean Library, LibKey Nomad is designed for users searching outside our Library systems. [On screen the PubMed.gov search results are displayed again]. Once installed, you will see access buttons when the Library has open or subscription access to journal article content. The Download PDF button links straight through to the PDF. [On screen either **Access options** or **Download PDF** buttons appear next to each search result].

Remember you can download Lean Library and Libkey Nomad via the intranet.

This video has shown you how to access the full text of resources you find when searching databases.

For tips on getting started with databases, please see our ‘Basics’ video.

For more advanced database search tips, such as using filters, truncation, search strings and advanced search, please view the ‘Advanced’ video in this series.

You can find these on our YouTube channel: @CardiffUniLib.

For further advice or queries, contact your subject librarian.