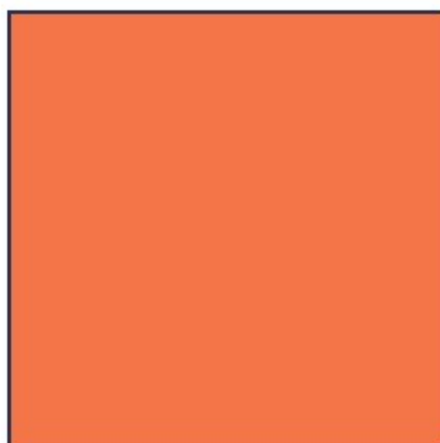
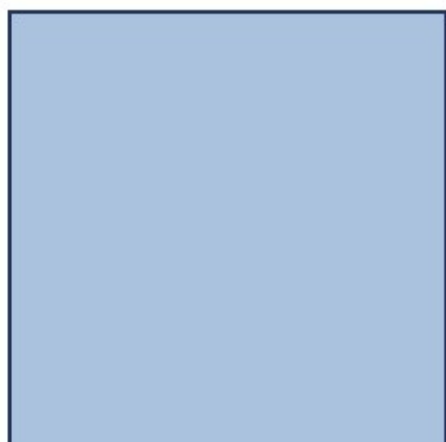
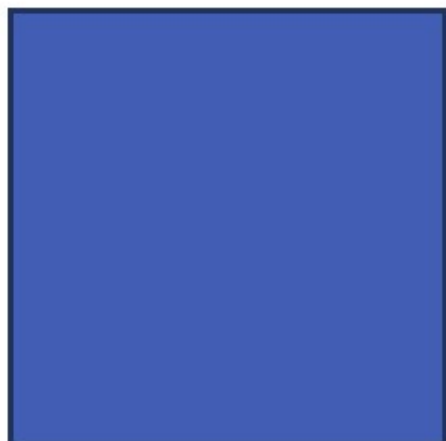


# Subject Guide

A short guide to the literature



# Subject guide: a short guide to the literature

## Contents

Introduction .....	2
Books .....	2
Electronic Books .....	3
Short Loan Collection .....	3
Photocopy Collection .....	3
Quick Reference Collection.....	3
Videos and DVDs .....	4
Journals (also called Periodicals).....	5
Electronic journals .....	5
Reviews .....	5
Locating an article you want to read .....	
Searching for Journal Articles .....	5
Indexing and Abstracting Services .....	6
Current Awareness Services.....	6
Internet / World Wide Web Sources of Information .....	6
Other Sources of Information .....	7
Theses (also called Dissertations).....	7
A Simple Guide to Literature Searching .....	7
Preparation .....	7
Searching .....	7

## Introduction

This is a short guide to the books, journals and other sources of information you may encounter. please note that the Resources for Subject web page can be found at [http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p\\_L\\_id=PUB.1.5](http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p_L_id=PUB.1.5). Here you will find links to many useful sources. If you require further information or assistance please call us at: [Answers to your Questions](#)

## Books

Textbooks tend to be the material most commonly used by students. They are arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme, which assigns a class number to each subject area. Broad subjects have short numbers e.g. 615 is the class number for pharmacology  
Some important class numbers include:

Research Methods	001.42
Systems Analysis & Design	003
Computer Science	004
Data Processing	004.6
Computer Programming, Programs, Data	005
Programming Languages	005.13
Programming Languages	005.13
Operating Systems	005.43
Database Systems	005.74
Database Systems	005.74
Computer & Network Security	005.8
Artificial Intelligence	006.3
Computer Graphics	006.66
Internet Technologies & Web Programming	006.76
Psychology	150
Religion	220-290
Social Sciences	300
Organizational Behavior	302.35
Social Processes	303
Social Groups	305
Culture & Institutions	306
Communities	307
Political Science	320
Civil & Political Rights	323
International Relations	327
Economics	330
Financial Economics	332
Investment	332.6

There is however a danger in only looking at certain numbers when trying to find a book on a particular subject. That subject may also be covered elsewhere and to overcome this problem you should use the Library Catalogue. This will help you to trace materials on any subject. It can be searched in various ways e.g. by Author, Title, Keyword etc. The Library Catalogue will tell you where the item is located, how many copies we have and the availability of the item. It can be accessed via any networked PC  
[http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p\\_l\\_id=PUB.1.5](http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p_l_id=PUB.1.5).

If you experience any difficulty in using the Library Catalogue please ask the staff for assistance.

### **Electronic Books**

In addition to printed books, AIU library have access to a number of electronic books or e-books. All available titles are listed [her](#) or you can search in library catalogue.

Also links to collections of e-books are available from the E-Books web page [Wwww.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com).

### **Short Loan Collection**

This is a collection of books held in the Short Loans Area. Items in this collection are issued for a one day only. Details of items in the collection are listed on the Library Catalogue. Examples of useful books located in this collection include:

Katzung & Trevor's pharmacology : by Anthony J. Trevor [615.1 TRE.K].

Quick review pharmacy by Joyce A. General [615.1076 GEN.Q]

### **Photocopy Collection**

This is a collection of photocopied journal articles and chapters from books, deposited by lecturers for student use. To see the collection, check the Library Catalogue. Photocopies can be located by author or title.

### **Quick Reference Collection**

This collection houses dictionaries, directories, handbooks, pharmacopoeias, formularies and encyclopedias. These items are for use only within the AIU libraries. Examples of books in this section include:

British national formulary [615.1 BNF.B] <http://www.bnf.org/bnf/>

Medicines Compendium : <http://emc.medicines.org.uk/>

Merck index [615.103 ONE.M]

United States pharmacopoeia [615] <http://www.uspnf.com/uspnf/login>

### **Videos and DVDs**

The AIU library has a collection of videos and DVDs

To find out what videos are available, check the Library Catalogue.

Some videos are available via the network video service details are available via  
[http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p\\_l\\_id=PUB.1.5](http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p_l_id=PUB.1.5)

## **Journals (also called Periodicals)**

Journals, which are published weekly, monthly, quarterly or even annually, contain the latest developments, research and news in a subject area.

Examples of journal titles of interest include:

### **Pharmacy Journal**

- Nature
- Molecular Genetics & Metabolism
- Pharmacy World & Science (online)
- Lancet

### **ART Journals**

- VOGUE
- Domus – Italy
- Communication Arts

For further details consult the Library Catalogue.

## **Electronic journals**

AIU library subscribes to a large number of full-text E-Journals. Details of titles available can be found either in the Library Catalogue [http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p\\_l\\_id=PUB.1.5](http://library.aeu.ac.sy/c/portal/layout?p_l_id=PUB.1.5). or from the E-Journals A-Z list available via the Library catalogue ([E-journals](#))

Many of the E-Journals we subscribe to are part of larger electronic journal services. It is possible to search all the journals available through a service by subject or by author's name.

## **Reviews**

A review is usually a lengthy article, which summarises the developments in a subject. They are helpful when starting work on a particular subject. Reviews are found in journals or books published at regular intervals. The LRC subscribes to the following review publications, which are housed with the books in the LRC:

Some review publications are available electronically including the Annual Reviews collection <http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/action/showJournals>.

## **Searching for Journal Articles**

When looking for journal articles on a particular topic, full-text electronic services such as Springerlink, DOAJ and Online library wiely often provide a good starting point. However in order to carry out a comprehensive search for information you may also need to search some of the larger services covered in the section on Indexing and Abstracting Services

## Indexing and Abstracting Services

Indexing and abstracting services (often known as abstracts and indexes) are used to locate journal articles on particular subjects or by particular authors. They provide a means of keeping track of the thousands of journal papers that appear each year and are updated regularly. Many of these services are available electronically and are usually referred to as databases.

The following web-based services will be of interest to students:

- <http://www.bioone.org/> An aggregation of over 78,000 peer-reviewed, full-text articles on current research in Biodiversity Conservation, Biology, Ecology, Plant Sciences, Entomology, Ornithology, and Zoology.
- [www.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com) : free abstract & preview.

### Other useful electronic services include:

**Reaxys**– this is a chemical information system for accessing the Beilstein and Gmelin databases. Beilstein is the definitive source for organic chemistry covering properties, methods of making organic compounds, reactions and physiological information. Gmelin covers inorganic and organometallic compounds. Access via Library or this link <https://www.reaxys.com/>

**Cochrane Library** - This service provides evidence to inform health care decision making in the form of full-text systematic reviews of research and references to articles based on randomised controlled trials and controlled clinical trials. It consists of several sections including the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Database of Abstracts of Effects, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (Clinical Trials) and the Cochrane Methodology Register. It is a useful source of answers to questions about the effectiveness of treatments, Access via Library or this link: <http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/index.html> .

### Current Awareness Services

These services enable you to see what has been published recently in journals thus helping you to keep up to date in your field of interest. Typically they contain reproductions of the table of content pages, which are made available by publishers and also special current awareness services e.g.

### Internet / World Wide Web Sources of Information

The AIU library includes links to many external resources.

It is possible to search the whole Internet by choosing one of the search engines available e.g. Google: <http://www.google.co.uk> and entering keywords. If you do this try to be as specific as possible, however it is likely that you will retrieve large amounts of non relevant material. To improve your results you may wish to use the Advanced Search option, this enables you to limit your search to find more relevant results. It is important to remember that the availability of information on the Internet is no guarantee of its quality or reliability, no quality control exists for much of the information published. It is therefore important to evaluate any information that you find on a website carefully before referring to it in an essay or acting upon it.

Search Engines Guide: nternet search engines are categorized by topic in our searchable directory of general and specialty search engines. Also listed are resources and tools for exploring the deep web, performing advanced research, and for learning about using search engine tools and technology. <http://www.searchengineguide.com/searchengines.html>

Another useful tool is Google Scholar: <http://scholar.google.co.uk> This search tool provided by Google allows you to broadly search the Internet for scholarly literature. Google Scholar also has an Advanced Search facility that allows you to build up a more structured search. Although the results found will be more scholarly than a standard Google search it is still no guarantee of academic quality or reliability therefore it is still important to evaluate carefully the references found

and Intute: Chemistry <http://www.intute.ac.uk/chemistry/> . Intute is a free online service providing you with access to web resources for education and research, evaluated and selected by a network of subject specialists

For further help and advice on searching the web a useful source is:

Internet for Pharmacy <http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/he/tutorial/pharmacist/> this is a subject specific internet tutorial designed to help you learn how to get the best from the Web for your education and research.

### **Other Sources of Information**

#### **Theses (also called Dissertations)**

The AIU library has a collection of research. They are held in the Non circulation Area.

There is UK doctoral theses are available to download free of charge from the British Library Electronic Theses Online Service (EThOS) at [:http://ethos.bl.uk/Home.do](http://ethos.bl.uk/Home.do) .

### **A Simple Guide to Literature Searching**

A literature search is a systematic search through the many resources outlined in this guide, in order to locate information on a given subject.

#### **Preparation**

1. Define your topic by compiling a list of appropriate key words/phrases and consider any limits you may wish to apply, such as date, language, publication type or geographic location.
2. Remember to use both acronyms and synonyms where appropriate.
3. If you find too much information you may wish to consider using narrower more specific terms. Alternatively if you find very little information you may wish to consider using broader search terms to widen your search.
4. Combine appropriate terms together using the Boolean Operators AND, OR, NOT to build up your search.

#### **Searching**

1. Identify an appropriate database to find useful references (see Electronic Journals,E-Books, Indexing and Abstracts and Subject).
2. Access this resource via the Electronic Library <http://library.aeu.ac.sy/> Database
3. Finally, if you are having difficulties or require advice about any of the resources described in this guide contact us.  
Remember we are here to help.