

Resource Guide for Telecommunications Management & Technology Research

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Library web site: www.stevens.edu/library

Objectives for today's research session:

1. Students will gain a solid understanding of the high-quality, professional, and scholarly research resources available through the Stevens library website search tools
2. Students will feel confident in their knowledge of the library website search tools
3. Students will know to contact a Reference and Research Services Librarian when they need help with their research questions as they write their papers & projects
4. Students will understand that a well-versed knowledge of top-quality research sources will give them a competitive edge over their peers when it comes time to apply for employment and academic positions
5. Students will recognize and value that research is an essential life skill

Guide to finding resources:

<i>Type of resource</i>	<i>How & where to find it</i>
<i>Books in the Library at Stevens and online books (e-Books)</i>	Use the iLink library catalog to identify the books that you want to read
<i>Books from other universities</i>	Use WorldCat database to identify the book you want, and then use Interlibrary Loan Services to request the book (for free)
<i>Journals and journal articles; magazines and magazine articles; newspapers and newspaper articles</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use the Full-Text Journal Finder to locate a specific article if you have the full citation - Check the online resource A-Z list for databases of scholarly and academic journals - Search across multiple online resources using MultiSearch <p><i>Request journal articles, magazine articles, and newspaper articles that are unavailable in full text in the databases through Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Services for a \$1.00 fee</i></p>
<i>Ph.D. Dissertations and Master's theses written by Stevens students</i>	Online through iLink library catalog and in the Library by request; some dissertations are available online through UMI database (see website for more details)
<i>Ph.D. Dissertations written by students at other universities</i>	Use the WorldCat Dissertations database to identify the dissertation you would like to read, and then request the dissertation through Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Services for a \$10 fee

Database descriptions and search tips:

<i>Database name</i>	<i>Points to remember</i>	<i>Search tips</i>
<i>ABI/Inform</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great for trade and industry news • Scholarly & peer-reviewed articles in addition to magazines & newspapers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results display allows sorting by academic journals, magazines, and newspapers • Create marked list to organize and save, email, print, or export your results
<i>Academic Search Premier</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent multidisciplinary database; mostly scholarly articles • My EBSCOHost tool offers saved searches, alerts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results display allows sorting by academic journals, magazines, and newspapers • Use the print/email function to format your citations quickly from your marked list, or, "folder"

ACM Digital Library (Association for Computing Machinery)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full text of all ACM journals & conference proceedings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use advanced search function • Sort by date, relevance, & more
Business Source Premier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business & company scholarly & peer-reviewed journals • Trade and weekly journals and magazines • Excellent industry news • Company analysis and profiles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citation tools can help you find related articles and citing articles • Use the print/email function to format your citations quickly
Compendex, via Engineering Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the best sources for <i>all</i> types of engineering research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesaurus has list of Compendex controlled terms • Use wildcards to compensate for spelling variations
IEEE Xplore electronic library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full text & images for all IEEE journals, magazines, conference proceedings, and standards • Excellent for electrical engineering, computer science, and electronics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use advanced search; sort by date or relevance • View Top 100 Documents
Science Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full text of scholarly, peer-reviewed scientific, medical, and technical journals • From Elsevier Publishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full text of many titles from mid-1990s to present
Scopus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidisciplinary database for science and engineering research • Search for research articles, conference proceedings, and patents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't limit by subject • Cited By sort will help you find some of the most-read and most-cited articles in an area of research
Telecommunications (via ProQuest interface)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 130 of the top telecommunications industry journals; 100 available in full text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use <i>Search Tips</i> to improve your results • Results display allows sorting by academic journals, magazines, and newspapers

E-Books (online reference books and handbooks):

- Britannica Online
- Knovel Engineering and Scientific Online Reference (online reference books)
- Oxford English Dictionary Online
- Safari Tech Books Online

For Business & Company research:

○ <i>Business & Company Resource Center – excellent source for investment reports by analysts</i>
○ <i>Hoover's Company Profiles – company information, key numbers</i>
○ <i>Lexis-Nexis Academic – SEC filings, industry & business news; international newspapers, newswires, and magazines</i>
○ <i>Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage – stock reports, company profiles, and industry profiles</i>

Information about library services and resources:

Connecting to Library Resources from Off-Campus - Setting up a Virtual Private Network (VPN):

Instructions are available for connecting to the library research databases from off-campus locations by setting up a VPN. If you have trouble connecting from off-campus, contact a Help Desk Consultant at the Computer Center at 201-216-5500.

Finding books in the library at Stevens:

Use the Stevens Library iLink Library Catalog to search for books, theses, and dissertations located on the shelves of the Samuel C. Williams Library. You can check out books after you complete a library privileges card at the Circulation Services desk. You can renew the books online using the *My Account* feature of iLink, using a PIN provided by John Cruz, Circulation Services Manager, at juan.cruz@stevens.edu or 201-216-5334. e-Books are also listed in iLink.

Multisearch:

A tool that allows you to search across multiple databases/online resources simultaneously to find journal articles, etc.

Full Text Journal Finder:

Use this helpful tool to find out if the **full text** of a journal, magazine, or newspaper is available in any of the library databases. If it's not available, request the document you need through Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Services.

Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Services:

If the Library does not have something you need on the shelves or in any of the online library research databases, we can get it for you! Fees include: \$1.00 per journal, magazine, or newspaper article request; \$10.00 for a copy of a dissertation; and, there is *no fee* for the Interlibrary Loan of books. Some Interlibrary Loan books may be renewed but that depends on the policies of the lending library. Read more on the library web site about requesting and obtaining journal articles, magazine & newspaper articles, standards, reports, conference proceedings, dissertations, and books.

Citing your sources:

This guide within the *Search Tools – Tutorials and Guides* section will lead you to guides and examples of various citation formats, including APA, MLA, and Chicago. This page also explains *why it is so important to properly cite your sources*, and it also links to the *Stevens Writing Instruction Tutorial* site, at <http://www.stevens.edu/wit/research/links.shtml>
Some databases, like Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, and Scopus, allow you to create and format bibliographies, according to the citation style recommended/required by your professor.

Help with writing papers and communication: Written and oral communications skills are crucial for engineers, scientists and managers – a fact long recognized by every curriculum established at Stevens for the benefit of its students. Improve your writing by checking out WCI at Stevens (Writing and Communications at the Institute) at <http://www.stevens.edu/wci/>

Finding Patents:

The USPTO (United States Patent and Trademark Office) database contains searchable full-text of patents issued since 1976; full-page images since 1790, and patent applications published since March, 2001. You can also use the Scopus database to search both the USPTO, European Patent Office, Japanese Patent Office, and World Intellectual Property Organization simultaneously.

The **New York Public Library - Science, Industry, and Business Library** is located at 34th Street & Madison Avenue in Manhattan. This library specializes in science, industry, and business research. Find access to engineering, science, industry, marketing, business, and statistical databases unavailable at the Stevens Institute library.

<http://www.nypl.org/research/sibl/index.html>

Tips and information for improved database searching:

Boolean Review

- AND narrows results
- OR broadens results
- NOT narrows results (but usually less than ANDing does)

Subject Searching

When you find a database record that meets your research criteria, look at the subject headings to see what controlled terms the database producers are using. Controlled vocabulary can be defined as the words and phrases selected by a database producer to classify the information in the database. Controlled vocabulary are also known as subject headings, descriptors, or thesaurus terms. Remember that some databases may call subject headings *descriptors*; however, *identifiers* are not controlled terms.

Please note: Often, databases will make their subject headings hot links that you can click on to search that heading. If you click on the link, chances are good that you will get more results than you can comfortably review. To narrow the results, combine subjects with other subjects or with keywords.

Field Searching

Fields comprise database records. Common fields are author, title, abstract, publication, and text. Limiting your search terms to specific fields, e.g., title and abstract, is a good way to increase your chances of finding relevant articles. Databases vary in the way they want you to specify field information. It's best to read the help section if you have a question about how to construct a field search.

Types of Articles

- Research articles—Provide methodology and results of research.
- Review articles—Not to be confused with book or movie reviews, review articles summarize developments over time in a field of study and their bibliographies can be great for finding citations to important articles.

Peer Review

Peer Review—the process by which an author's peers read a paper submitted for publication. A number of recognized researchers in the field will evaluate a manuscript and recommend its publication, revision, or rejection. You can find out whether or not a publication is peer-reviewed by using the *Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory*. This resource will give you a lot of useful information about the publication.

Aggregate databases versus single publisher databases

Use an aggregate database, regardless of whether or not it has full-text, in combination with the Full-text journal locator, the library's online catalog, and a general Web search. The aggregate database gives you a fuller sweep of the literature research. It helps you to identify the articles that exist on your topic. If it's not in full text either from one of our subscription databases or on a Website, you can order it from through Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Services for \$1.00. Aggregate databases that you may find useful are the following:

Academic Search Premier, PubMed and Medline, Scopus, Business Source Premier, and ABI/Inform.

Helpful hints to make your research more effective and efficient:

Know Thy Database - They're all different. To optimize results, learn their idiosyncrasies by referring to advanced searching instructions & help guides.

Finders, Keepers - Never forget to record a complete citation for each valuable source of information that you've taken the time to find - you don't want to have to track it down later.

Know When to Ask - It's ok to ask for help at ANY TIME during the course of your research. And sometimes, it really makes sense to capitalize on people as resources of information. Don't hesitate to consult with your professors, the Reference and Research Services Librarians, or to locate experts on your topic who are willing to give advice.

Follow The Source - Save time by following up on the sources cited in someone else's bibliography.

Never Settle ...for the results in one database. Each database indexes different journals and no database provides exhaustive coverage of all journals in a subject area. For a thorough search, use as many databases as you can.

The Early Bird - Don't wait until the last minute to begin your research. Although some of your references might be found immediately in our full-text databases, chances are that not all of them will be. If you're doing a thorough job with your research, you'll probably have to order at least some of your documents through our Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Service. Given a reasonable amount of time, we can obtain almost any document you need for just \$1 per item.

Questions about your research? Ask a Reference and Research Services Librarian!

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