

HOW TO FIND AND LIMIT TO SCHOLARLY ARTICLES IN OMNI

This video will show you how to find scholarly articles in Omni.

Omni has articles on a wide variety of topics and is often a good starting point for research.

The search box is on the Library's main web page. Just type your search and press Search Omni. I'll search for legalization and prostitution.

Your results will include books and many other types of resources. To limit to scholarly articles, look under Availability in the left column and click on Peer-reviewed journals. This gives me 2,700 articles.

Click on the record to see more details about an article. Here you'll see a list of options to locate the article. Click on one to go to the article page and find the PDF. If you're off campus, you'll need to log in at this point. Here you'll also see related articles on the right.

Scroll down to see a description of the article. At the bottom, there are sometimes options to see what this article cites and which articles cite it.

2700 articles is a lot to look through. You can refine your results by using the search limits on the left, for example date or language. One useful way of making your results more relevant is to use the Subjects. Click on Subject to see a list of subjects. Click in the box to the left of a subject to include it in your results, or in the box on the right to exclude it. I'll include Human Trafficking and exclude History and Archaeology, then click Apply Filters. Now I have narrowed to 170 results, which are focused on one aspect of the topic.

For more precise searching, use the Advanced Search. Click on Advanced Search beside the search box at the top of the page. It is helpful to keep different search concepts on different lines, so I'll type legalization in the first box, and prostitution in the second box. I can specify which resource type, language, or date range I want. In the Any Field dropdown, I can choose whether I want to search everywhere in the record or just the title, author, or subject fields.

In the advanced search, I can add alternate words for my main search concepts. Put alternate words in the same search box separated by OR. I'll type legalization OR laws in the first box, and prostitution OR sex trade in the second. This search will give me a lot more results.

Though Omni is often a good place to start, it only contains a subset of the Library's articles. For some subject areas, and for more in-depth research, a specialized subject database is a better option. You can find the best databases for your subject by choosing Subject Guides from the Research menu on every Library web page.

That's a quick overview of finding scholarly articles in Omni. If you have any questions, ask us at library.wlu.ca/help/askus.