Finding conference papers online

- Many conference papers are free online in Open Access repositories and archives or on the host society’s web pages.
- A quick search for the paper’s title in Google/Google Scholar will often find it.

**Institutional repositories** are becoming a good source for conference papers. Make sure you send yours to our own Oxford University Research Archive: [http://ora.ox.ac.uk/](http://ora.ox.ac.uk/).

Search them via:

- Google / Google Scholar [https://scholar.google.co.uk/](https://scholar.google.co.uk/)
- OpenDOAR [http://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/opendoar/](http://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/opendoar/)

**Searching in SOLO for conference papers**:

- When searching SOLO for a conference paper, you need to search for the *title of the conference* rather than the specific paper.
- The published proceedings may have a different title to the original.
- The publisher may be different from conference organiser.
- Conferences in SOLO will have a Subject Heading of “Congresses”, so use this as a keyword if you are unsure of the details of a specific conference.
- Some conference proceedings have ISBNs as well.

**Other Library catalogues**

The British Library is a key source of information about published conferences and has a very strong collection which can be searched from [explore.bl.uk](http://explore.bl.uk).

Also try:

- Library Hub Discover (UK Research Libraries) [https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/](https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/)
- WorldCat [https://www.worldcat.org/](https://www.worldcat.org/)

Conference proceedings can be borrowed from the British Library by Oxford Libraries using the Inter-Library loan system – [http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using/ill](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using/ill).
Most **General and subject-specific bibliographic databases** include conference papers and proceedings, as well as the option to limit your search by document type. Find those relevant to your subject via Databases A-Z ([https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php](https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php)), e.g.:

- SCOPUS
- Web of Science
- Historical Abstracts (via EBSCOhost)
- OpenGrey: System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe
- Social Sciences databases (via ProQuest)

**Conference indexes** – all available through Databases A-Z ([https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php](https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php)):

- Conference Proceedings Citation Index for both Science & Social Science and Humanities - available through Web of Science.
- Conference Papers Index – available through ProQuest.
- PapersFirst and ProceedingsFirst – note that these titles are all one word.
- ZETOC (British Library’s Table of Contents Service): [http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk](http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk)

**Quoting conferences**

- Be consistent and follow a standard system, e.g. Harvard, when referring to papers or proceedings.
- Give as much detail as possible – remember how much trouble you had finding it! An accurate reference will help others.
- Generally include:
  - Author(s) of paper - surname and initials
  - Year of publication,
  - 'Title of paper - in single quotation marks' [in] Editor (if applicable), *Title of published proceeding which may include place held and date(s) - italicised*
  - Publisher
  - Place of publication
  - Page numbers