Electronic resources for Egyptology and Assyriology
Today we will give you the skills to:

Find a specific item I already know about:

Exploring the literature on my topic:
• Search strategies for locating new articles and books
• Using bibliographic databases

Use specialist eresources on my topic
• Journals and bibliographies
• Language resources
• Images and objects
Find a specific item I already know about

Holdings of most Oxford Libraries (print and electronic) e.g. books, journals, theses, conference proceedings, AV materials, official / government papers, databases...

**OxLIP+**
A subset of SOLO that contains a catalogue of eResources (ejournals and databases)

**OU ejournals**
A catalogue of eJournals
Exploring the literature on my topic:

- Doing a literature review
- Identifying current research trends
- Research for an essay
- Finding an author’s publications
Search Tips

**Truncation**: often represented by *
search on stem of a word and retrieve variant endings
eg postmodern* gives postmodern, postmodernism and postmodernist

**Wildcards**: used within words, to retrieve alternative spellings
In some databases, for example:
$ retrieves either 0 or 1 characters, eg colo$r will find color & colour
? retrieves a single letter, eg wom?n will find woman or women

**Phrase searching**: to retrieve an exact phrase many databases use
quotation marks, eg “new stone age”

Conventions of a particular databases or search engines will vary, but these are commonly used symbols
Search tips: Boolean logic

AND: university and oxford

OR: university or oxford

NOT: university not oxford
Using bibliographic databases

Why use them?
Allow you to search for articles across large numbers of scholarly journals.

The journals are selected by the database editors for their quality.

Google Scholar is not a bibliographic database

Searches thousands of articles harvested from scholarly web sites.

Huge number of results of varying quality
### Search tips: Constructing a search

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<td><strong>Structured search</strong></td>
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**Search string:** (Temple OR monument OR mortuary OR funerary) AND (architecture OR buildin*) AND (Abydos OR Abdju)
Search tips: Constructing a search

Temple architecture in Abydos

Search string: (Temple OR monument OR mortuary OR funerary) AND (architecture OR buildin*) AND (Abydos OR Abdju)
Search Strategies

- Find more search terms from retrieved records while searching;
- Use a thesaurus to help (some databases may have a built-in thesaurus);
- Evaluate what you find;
- Keep good records of what you find and your search process;
- Be systematic;
- Adapt and evolve your search if needed. The first thing you think of may not always be right!
Specialist Electronic Resources: Journals and Bibliographies
An online searchable database of the bibliographic records with summaries of the Annual Egyptological Bibliography 1947 – 2001 + the Bibliographie Altägypten (BA) integrated with OEB, providing coverage of Egyptological literature from 1822 to 2002 (roughly 70,000 items) with a single search interface.
The **International Keilschriftbibliographie (KeiBi)** was first published by the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome in the journal *Orientalia* in 1940 (*Orientalia* N.S. 9). It became an essential tool for the study, research, and teaching of Ancient Near Eastern Studies.

Due to copyright the most recent two volumes are not included. After the issue of a new volume the next to last issue will be added.
Art Full Text

Coverage dates: Indexing 1984-, Abstracting 1994-
Full Text 1995 -

This database offers abstracts and indexing of an international array of peer-selected publications as well as full-text to over 300 periodicals
Proquest – History subset

Includes:

**Periodicals Index Online** - a database of millions of citations for articles published in the arts, humanities and social sciences, across more than 300 years.

**Humanities Index** - abstracting and indexing tool for research in the humanities, covering over internationally respected humanities journals and weekly magazines

(use [https://search.proquest.com/history](https://search.proquest.com/history) when on University network)
Key journals
Have a go!

- Suggested task sheets:

New to Oxford:
Using SOLO OR Using eJournals

Explore literature on a topic:
OEB OR Dyabola OR Art Full Text OR Proquest History
Specialist Electronic Resources: Language Resources
Language resources:

Comprises 1,400,000 text words.

Within the Thesaurus, a digital corpus of Egyptian (including Demotic) texts have been released to the public for computer-assisted search. Lemmatization and morpho-syntactic annotation of the text material allow for specific research from lexical, philological, linguistic, and historico-cultural points of view.

Note: Need to create login username.
Language resources:

The form and content of cuneiform inscriptions dating from the beginning of writing, ca. 3350 BC, until the end of the pre-Christian era.

500,000 exemplars, of which now more than 320,000 have been catalogued in electronic form by the CDLI.
The Open Richly Annotated Cuneiform Corpus (Oracc) is an international cooperative which provides facilities and support for the creation of free online editions of cuneiform texts and educational 'portal' websites about ancient cuneiform culture.

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Oracc is a collaborative effort to develop a complete corpus of cuneiform whose rich annotation and open licensing support the next generation of scholarly research. Created by Steve Tinney, Oracc is steered by Jamie Novotny, Eleanor Robson, Tinney, and Niek Veldhuis.

Language resources:
Language resources:

**About ETCSL**

**Using ETCSL**

**Sumerian**

**Miscellaneous**

**Introduction**

Sumerian is the first language for which we have written evidence and its literature the earliest known. The Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature (ETCSL), a project of the University of Oxford, comprises a selection of nearly 400 literary compositions recorded on sources which come from ancient Mesopotamia (modern Iraq) and date to the late third and early second millennia BCE. The corpus contains Sumerian texts in transliteration, English prose translations and bibliographical information for each composition. The transliterations and the translations can be searched, browsed and read online using the tools of the website. Funding for the ETCSL project came to an end in the summer of 2006 and no work is currently being done to this site or its contents. For more information, see the About ETCSL menu or the site map. In 2017, the Faculty of Oriental Studies IT Department carried a series of changes to the ETCSL backend, including upgrading the code to work on PHP7, the latest version of the software. Should you see any issues with the website, please contact us on the details on the General Info page.
Specialist Electronic Resources: Images and Objects
Museum collections:

http://www.griffith.ox.ac.uk/gri/7muslinks.html
Museum collections:

http://www.ashmolean.org/departments/antiquities/about/ANEast/index.php

http://www.britishmuseum.org/about_us/departments/middle_east.aspx
Finding images

http://library.artstor.org/

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/publications/online_research_catalogues.aspx

https://oi.uchicago.edu/collections/photographic-archives
Have a go!

• Explore the resources we’ve mentioned OR
• Pick an exercise from the workbook
Further help:

Clare Hills-Nova, Art & Architecture Librarian
cclare.hills-nova@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Helen Worrell, Archaeology and Tylor Anthropology Librarian
helen.worrell@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Powerpoint will go on the Egyptology and Ancient Near East Libguides located at:
http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/home/subjects