Connecting to SOLO - Connect to SOLO at http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Searching

1. Simple search

Try out 2 or 3 simple searches for known items (i.e. to locate books, journals or other items for which you already know the author and/or title). Alternatively try searching for 3 or 4 of the titles below. Search by entering the author and/or title and/or other details in the search box. You can enter any of the following: author, title, editor, translator, subject keywords.

- Panofsky, Renaissance and renascences in Western art
- Begg, Economics
- Clark(e), Managerial Accounting [Note: you’re not sure whether Clarke is spelt with an e or not – try using a wildcard]
- A book by Britnell and Dodds on the Black Death (the book has been recommended to you but you don’t know the exact title)
- W.H Auden, Collected poems edited by Edward Mendelson
- Cambridge Law Journal
- Law Commission, Adult Social Care
- A report by the United States Department of States on landmines

For each item answer the following questions:

i) Is the item available in print or online or both?
ii) If available in print, note down one library that holds the item and give the shelfmark
iii) Check the “details” tab to find out if a summary or table of contents is available. If so, how useful do you think this information is?

2. Search for an online copy Critical Sociology

i) Which database(s) can you use to view 2010 issues of this journal?
ii) Connect to a database to find out who wrote “Managing for Social Outcomes: Diverse Value Rationalities and Financial Control” in the March 2010 issue of Critical Sociology?

Using “refine” drop down menus in searching

3. Try searching using the drop down menus beneath the search box. These are useful for narrowing down your search when you get too many results. Choose one example from each of the categories below.

Authors: Stephen Hawking, Dylan Thomas or any other famous author. Whoever you choose make sure you limit your search to “as author/creator” so that you get items by them, not about them!

More authors: Science and Engineering Research Council, Save the Children, African Population Conference

Journal titles: Public Law

Audio visual: Sound recording or video of Tess of the D’Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy.

Maps: Map of France with scale of 1:25,000

For each

i) How far can you narrow down your search results? Note down the smallest number of results you can get for each search.

Advanced Search

4. Try using the advanced search for a search of your choice or choose one of these examples:

- George Orwell’s 1984? [Make sure that you search for the work itself not commentaries]. How many results do you get? How many do you get if you do the same search using the “simple search” interface?
- Items by Save the Children on the topic of water. How many results do you get? How many results do you get with a simple search?
- Books by Alan Jones on Arabic, the Arabs or Arabia. [Use truncation to search for alternative word endings for Arab] How many results do you get? How may results do you get with a simple search.

Coping with large numbers of “versions” (especially classic texts)

5. Find a copy of Shakespeare’s Richard II published by Arden.

6. Find a copy of Newton’s Principia published in 1760.

Sorting your results

7. Try searching for a famous author and sorting by date to find their most recently published item in Oxford libraries. If you can’t think of anyone try Carol Ann Duffy. Alternatively

8. Find the most recent map of London

Narrowing down your results by facets

9. Try searching for a prolific author (who has preferably published on a range of different topics). Try using the facets on the left of the screen to narrow down your search by topic and / or date. If you can’t think of anyone try searching for Tariq Ali. Narrow down your results to items about Pakistan. Once you’ve looked through your results remove the “Pakistan” facet and use the date facet to limit your search to items published since 2008.

10. Try finding a recent collection of poems by Elizabeth Bishop. Is it more effective to sort your results by “date newest” or to use narrow down your search using the “date facet” on the left?