



COMP1200

Perspectives On Computing

Search Smarter

Introduction to Information Resources


Why am I here?

- There are many information resources available online to assist you with your research.
- Important to include scholarly resources in your assignments.
- Brief overview of the resources available to you through The Library.

Library Home Page

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 **Library**

Scholarly Information Services

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Catalogue

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Search

Include

MetaFind: search multiple resources

E-resources & databases

Databases, indexes, e-books, bibliographies...

A B C D E F G H I J K L
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<http://anulib.anu.edu.au>

Databases

- What is a database?
- Why would I use one instead of Google?
- Which databases are most useful for COMP1200?
- How can I get the full text of the articles once I find the references in the database?

Proquest 5000 International

- Multidisciplinary
- A good IT subset
- Some full-text available
- Demo

Scopus

- Multidisciplinary
- Huge - over 15,000 journals covered
- Updated weekly
- Includes science and technology web results
- Demo

Other Online Resources

- IEEE Electronic Library
 - Provides access to all IEEE magazines, journals, conference papers and standards
 - Dates from 1988 onwards (further back for some legacy content)
 - Specific journals are listed in the Library catalogue; specific conferences are NOT.

Other Online Resources

- ACM Digital Library
 - Association for Computing Machinery.
 - Provides citations and full text from ACM journals, newsletter articles and conference proceedings.

Journals

- The “e-version” of journals is the version of choice for the ANU.
- Whether a journal is online or in print, look up the title in the Library catalogue to find out our holdings.

Access Off-Campus

- Most Library databases and journals are IP authenticated.
- If you try to connect from a non-ANU IP address, you won't be recognised.
- Log into <http://virtual.anu.edu.au>
- From there, click through to the Library page to access databases and e-journals.

Google Scholar



[Advanced Scholar Search](#)
[Scholar Preferences](#)
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scholar.google.com

Google Scholar

- Google Scholar is Google's way of filtering out "non-scholarly" material available online. Google's press release for Google Scholar states it as follows:

Google Scholar enables you to search specifically for scholarly literature, including peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from all broad areas of research. Use Google Scholar to find articles from a wide variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles available across the web.

Google Scholar

- **While it's a start, Google Scholar's database is not complete.**
- Not clear what has been indexed and what hasn't.
- Compared to the resources available through the ANU Library, Google Scholar is not as comprehensive.

Google Scholar

- **DO use Google Scholar to:**
 - Get a feel for papers and research in your subject area
 - Broaden your search keywords based on results
 - See if a paper is freely available if you can't find it through the Library
- **DON'T use Google Scholar as your only source for scholarly information!**

Web Searching

- Use advanced search options where available
- Google – biggest and the best
- Others to try:
 - Yahoo! Search search.yahoo.com
 - KillerInfo www.killerinfo.com

Evaluating Websites

- Journal articles and conference papers from the sources shown so far are usually scholarly
- How can you tell if a free web page is suitable to use for your uni assignments?

Evaluating Information

Evaluation criteria

Authority and reputation of the source

- Who provides the information?
- Are the author's title and institution/company displayed?
- Is there a link to the author's email address?
- Does the URL indicate what type of organisation the information is coming from? What, if anything does this tell you about the credibility of the information?

Evaluating Information

Evaluation criteria (continued)

Information integrity

- Is the information current and up to date?
- Does the author give the source for the information?
- Is there evidence of bias in the information?
- Can the information be verified elsewhere?

Conclusion

- Databases provide references to scholarly information
- Access full text of articles via the Library Catalogue
- Take advantage of sophisticated search options in search engines and databases.

Need more?

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