Using Research Resources & Managing Bibliographic Information

Communication Studies 605 – Research Methods I

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Today

Library overview

Thinking about information sources

Introduction to Zotero and managing your research

How to search effectively and capture what you need

Citing sources / making Zotero work for you

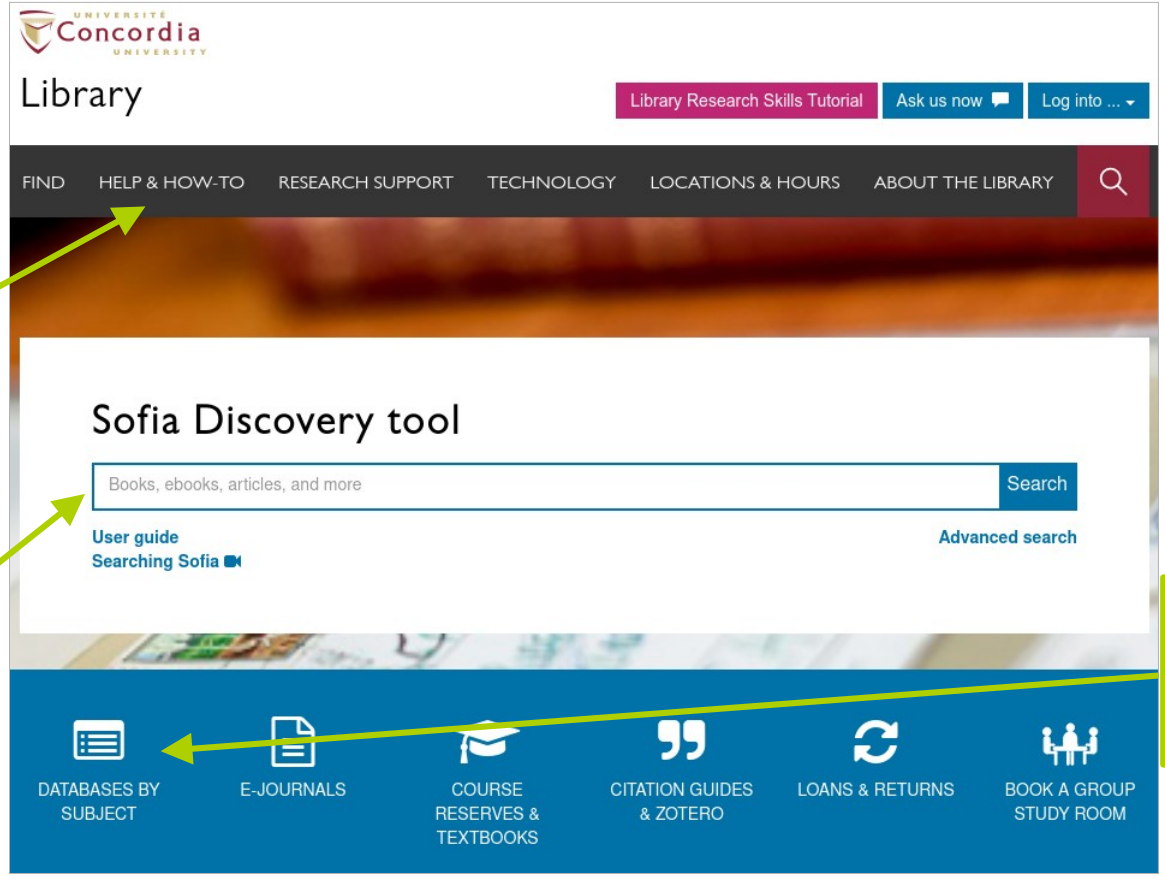
Getting help

Library resources

library.concordia.ca

Subject guide & other ways to find or evaluate information

Use Sofia to search the Library catalogue



Search to access articles and more

Key resources

Communication Studies Subject Guide

- Subject-specific databases, books, ebooks, etc.
  - bibliographic or full text
- **Sage Research Methods (link)**
- Encyclopedias and dictionaries
- Guides for courses, projects, writing, citation, etc.
- Librarian contact information

Avoid paywalls & access problems by **connecting to these databases through the library website.**

Go to the top menu:

Help & How-To -> Subject & course guides -> Communication Studies

Look under the **Humanities** heading

Document types to consider

Peer-reviewed articles in scholarly journals

(e)Books (slower publication cycle, often more theoretical)

Preprints

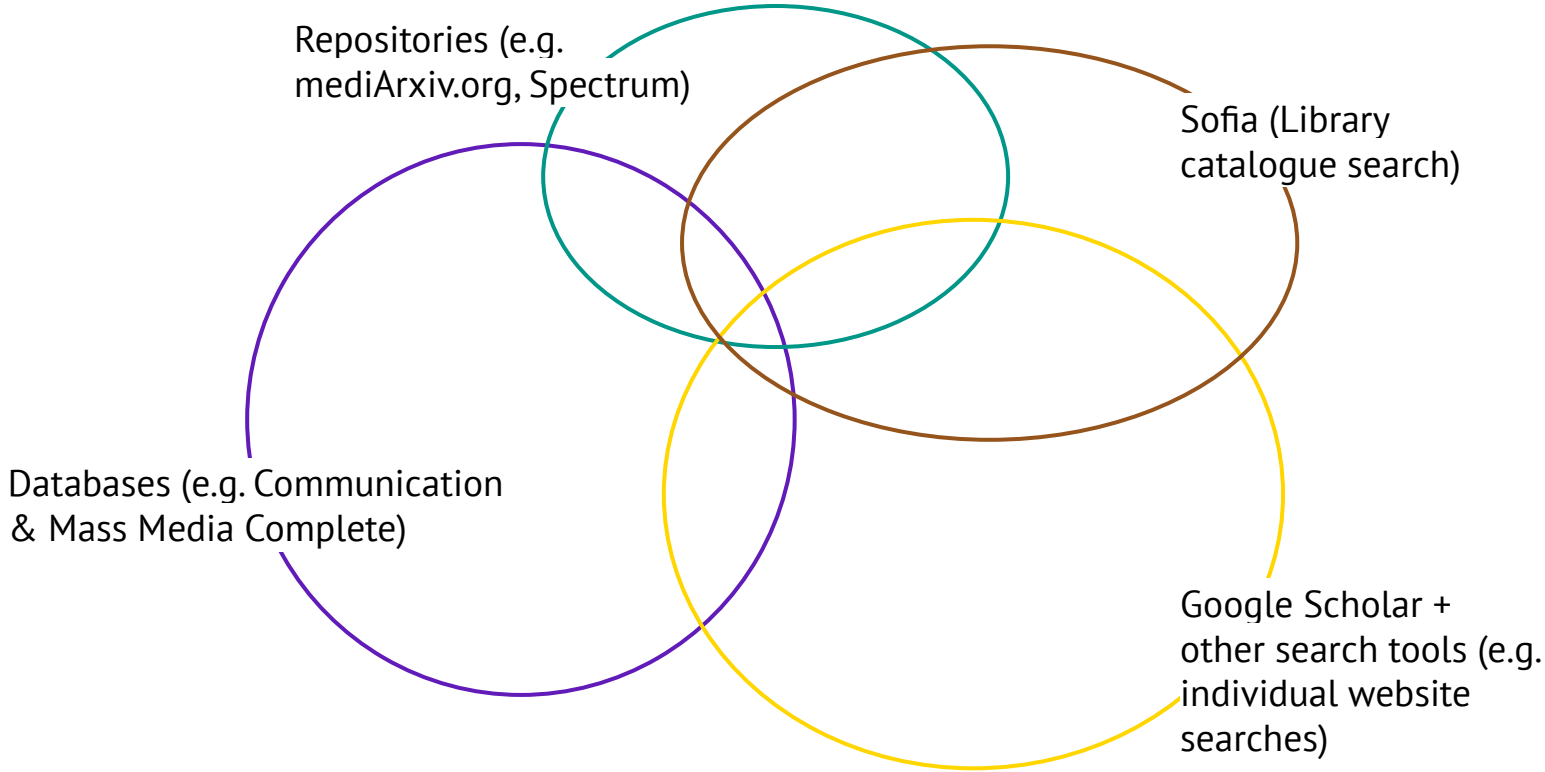
Government or legal documents and reports

NGO documents and reports

Non-traditional publications (more difficult to find)

e.g. Index of DH Conferences or Reviews in Digital Humanities Project Registry

Sources for finding and accessing research?



Evaluate beyond the face-value of these criteria

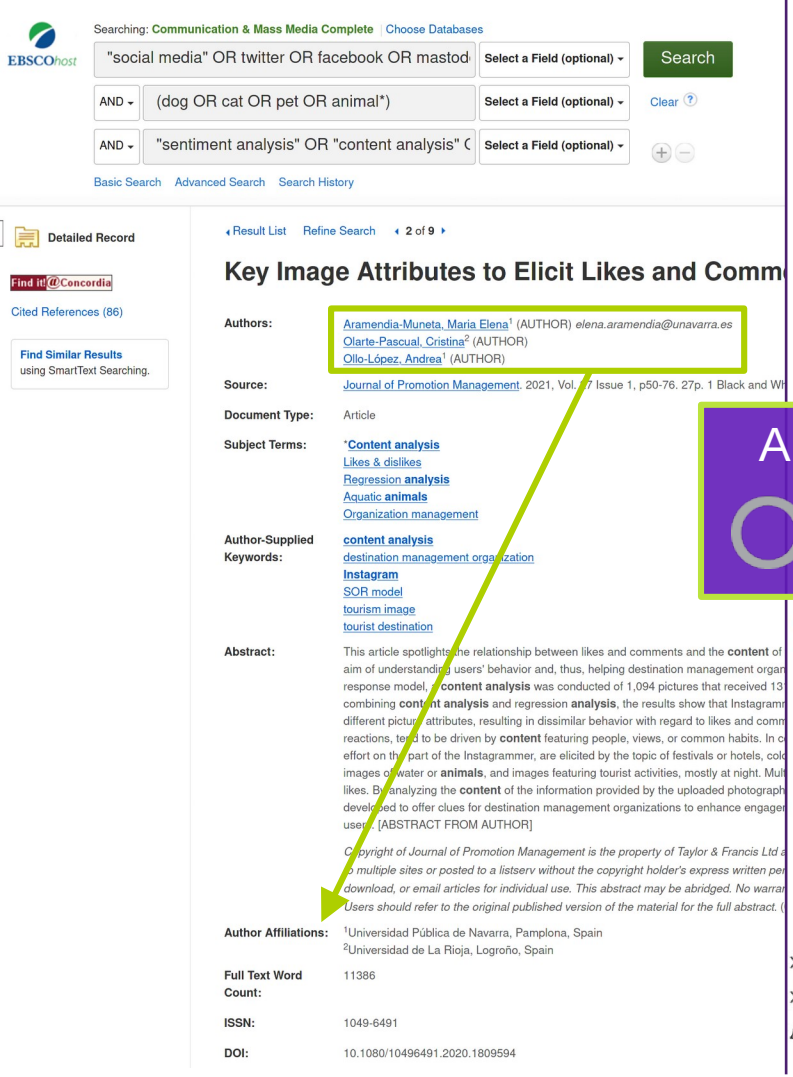
Currency
Relevance
Accuracy
Authority
Purpose

Does the information improve, increase, or alter what you've already learned?

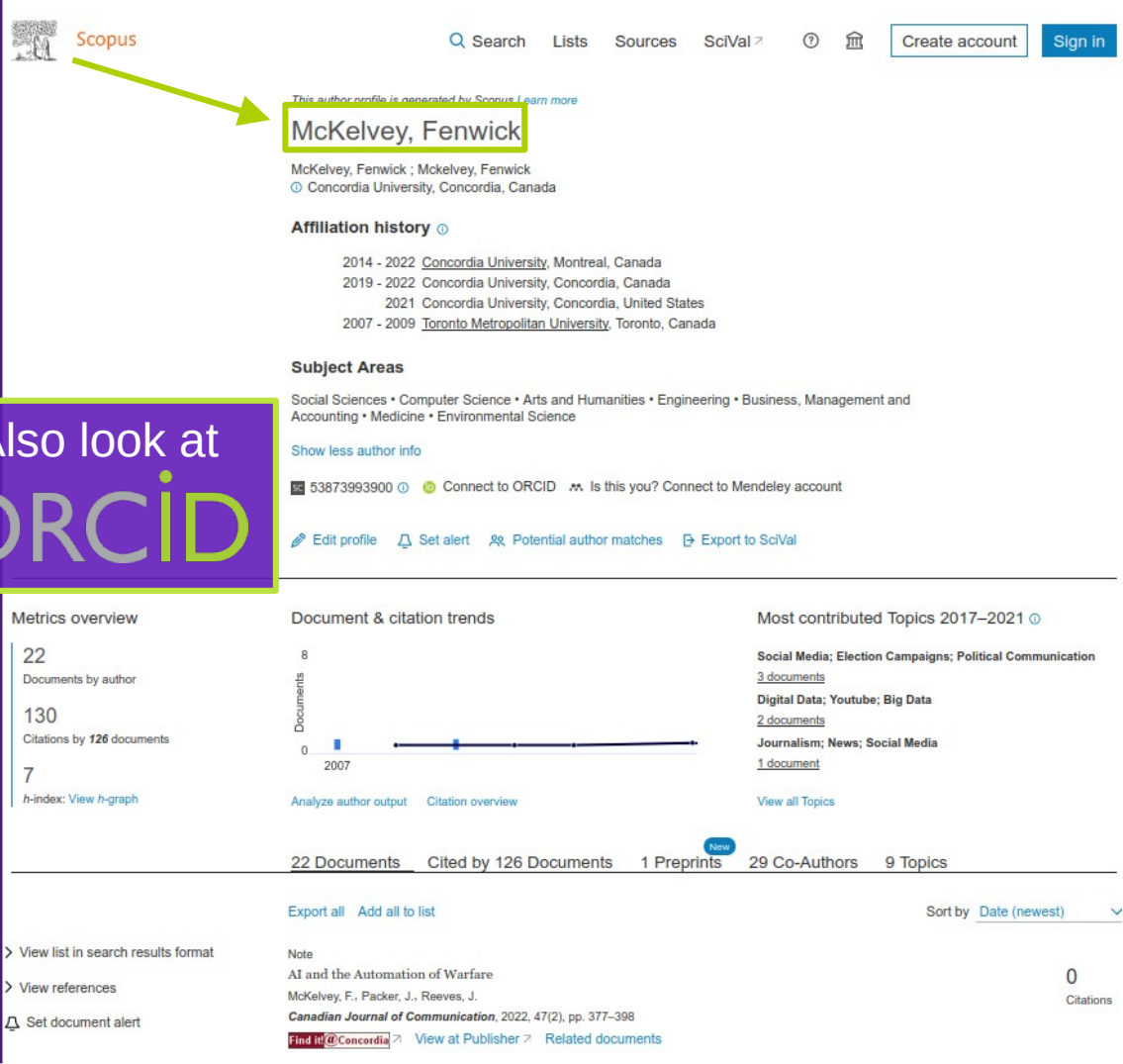
Ask what these things mean, in what contexts?

- Who published the document? Motivation? Audience?
  - government vs. non-profit org vs. researcher vs. trade association
- About page on a website
  - history / mission / members / funding sources?
- Official government symbols, report numbers
- Contact information (URL, institution, etc.)
- Dates of publication, techniques of dissemination?
- Contains information that increases/challenges what you know?
  Surprised? Changed your POV? Re-evaluated an assumption?

Library guide:
Evaluating research



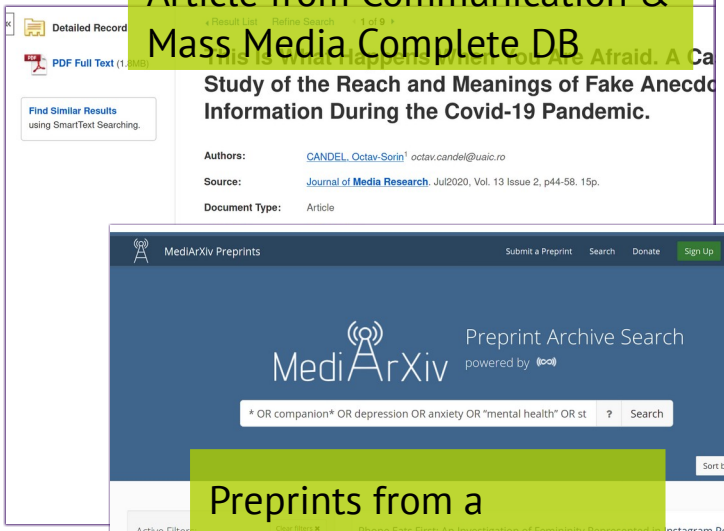
Also look at ORCID



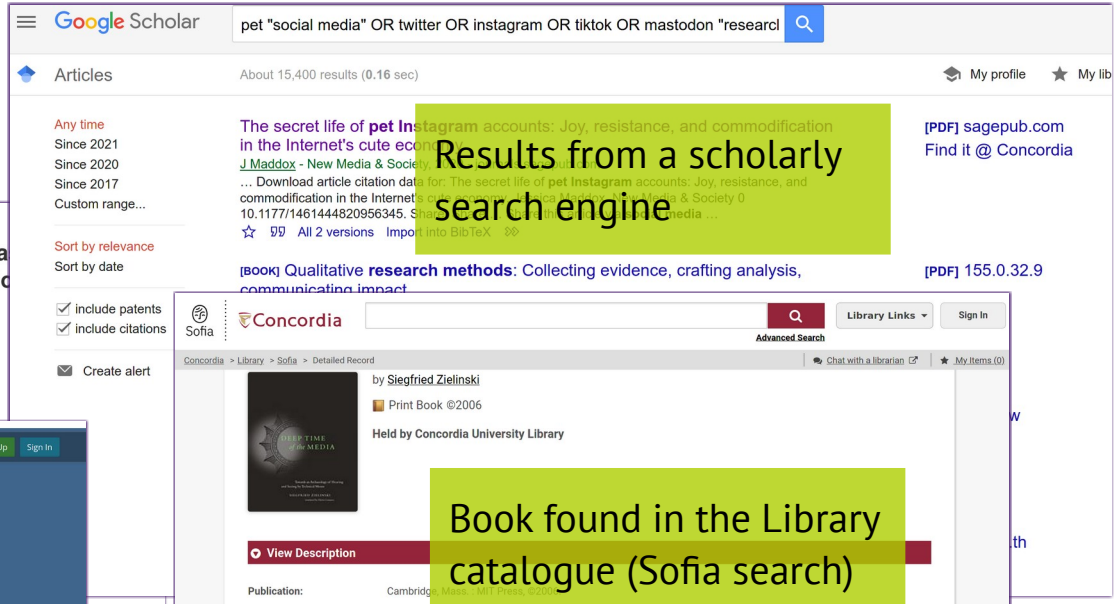
Organizing your research

How Zotero helps

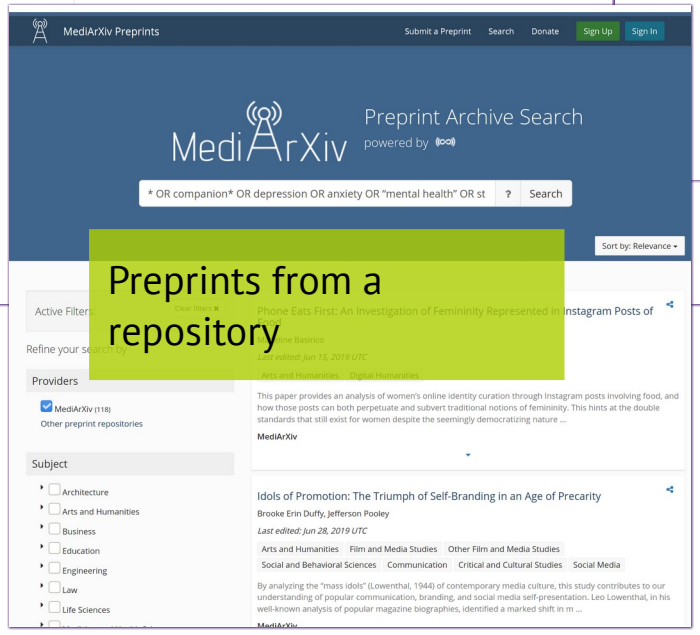
Article from Communication & Mass Media Complete DB



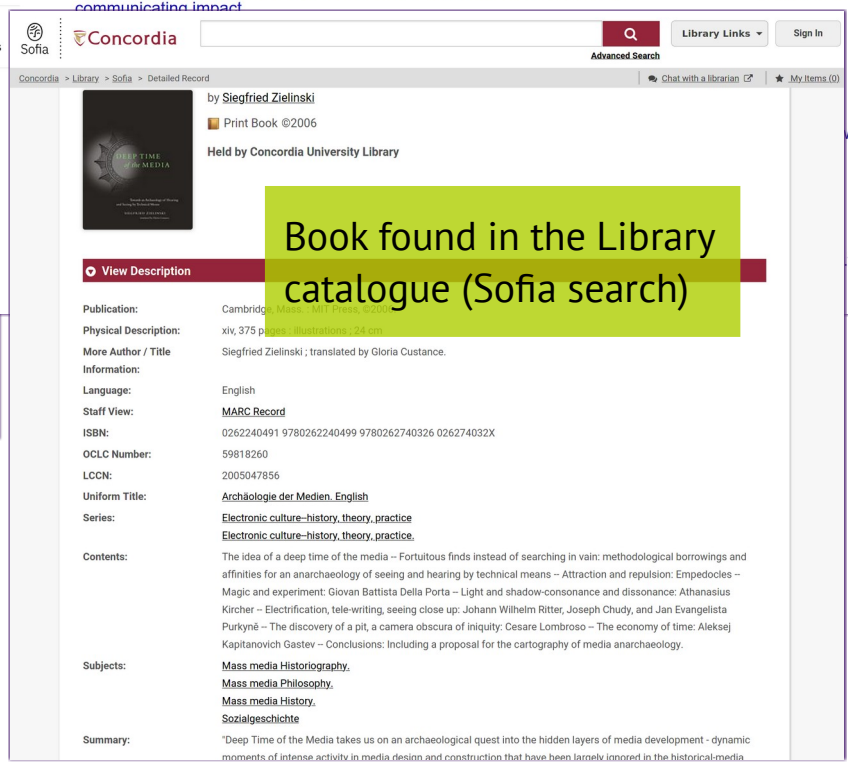
Results from a scholarly search engine



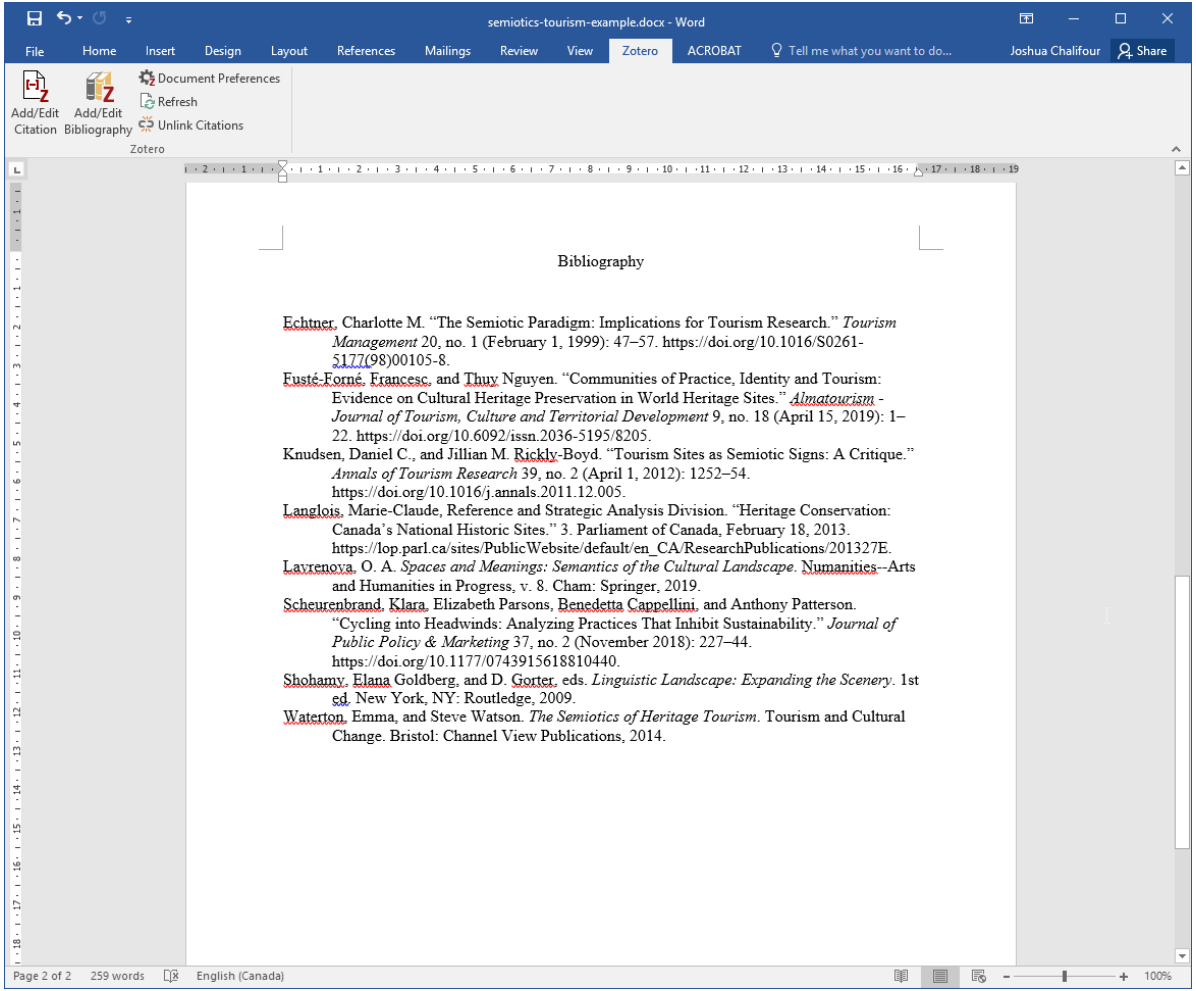
Preprints from a repository



Book found in the Library catalogue (Sofia search)



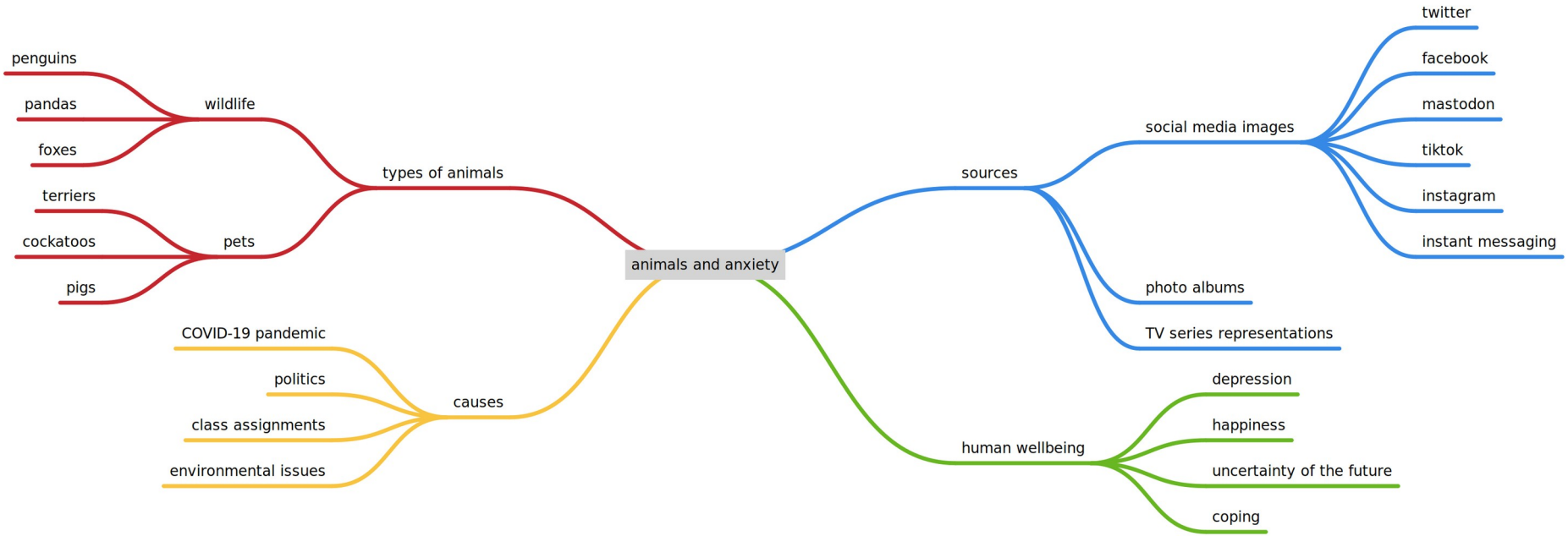
Zotero gives you this:



Demonstration:
Zotero interface & groups

Deciding what to look for and finding it

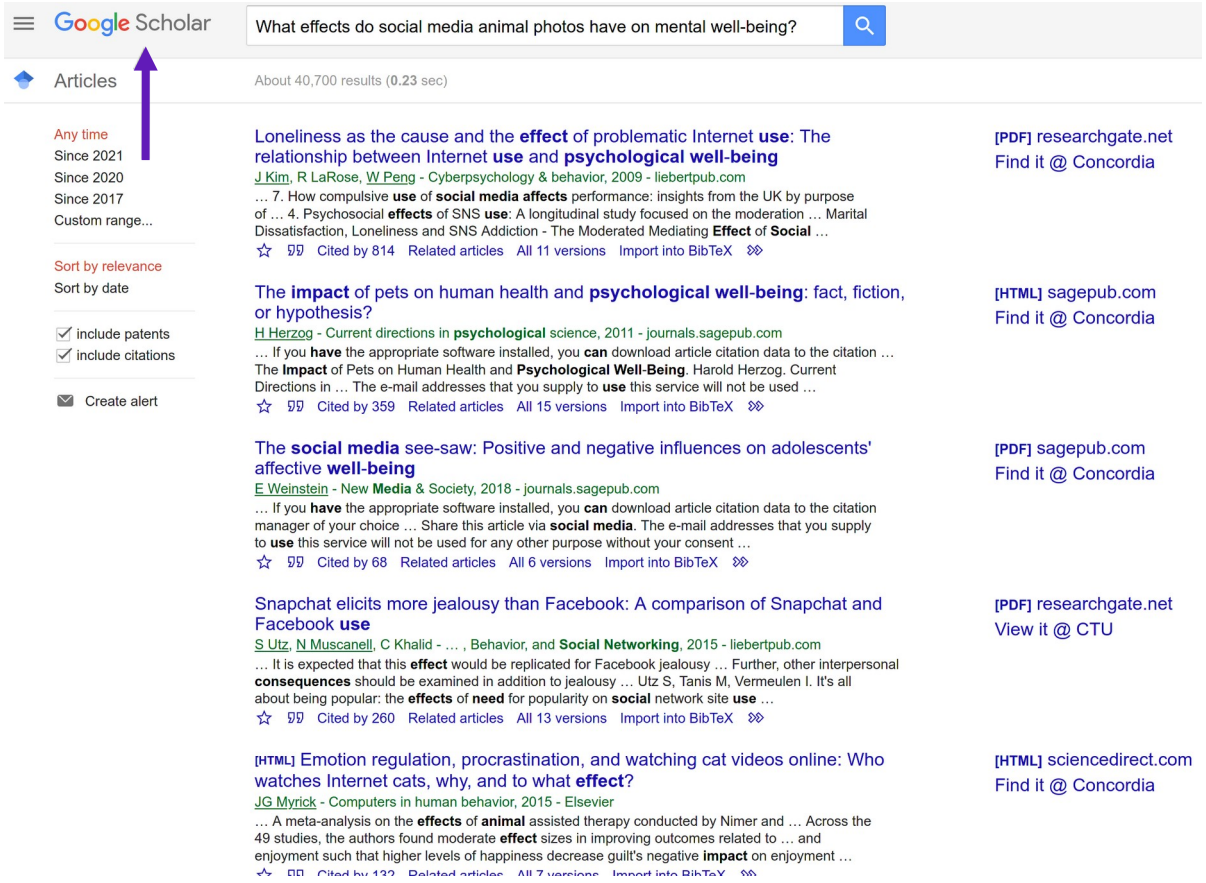
A question to focus our search

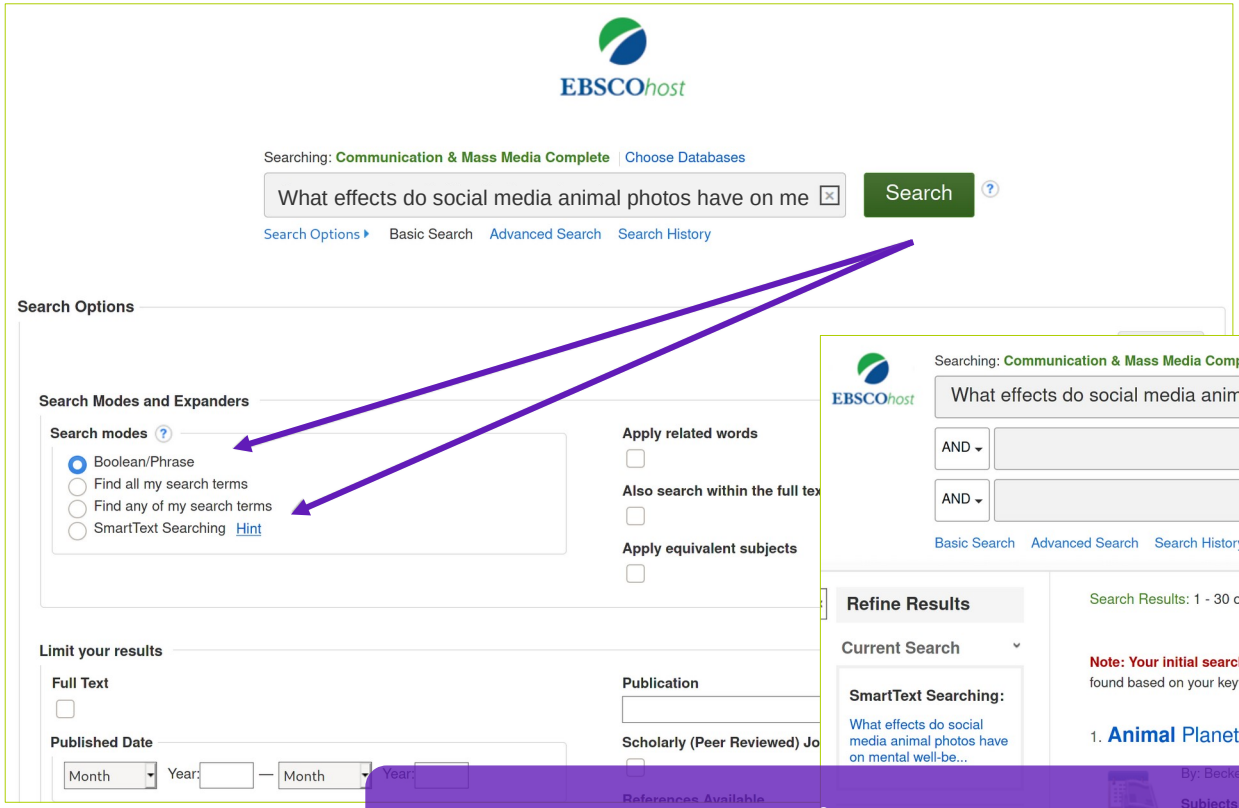


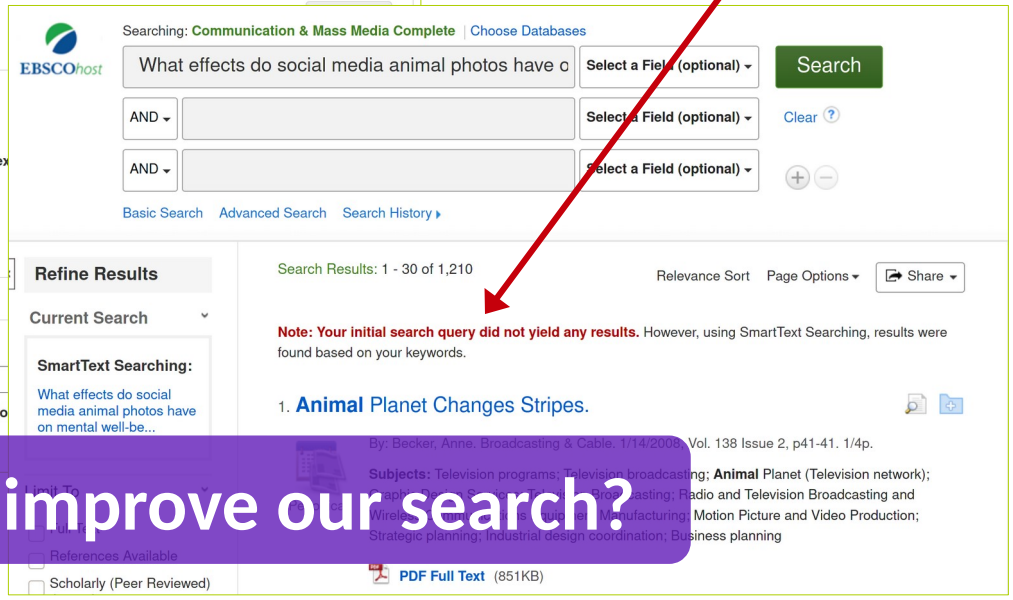
How do animal photos shared on social media, affect mental well-being?

Searching

What effects do social media animal photos have on mental well-being?







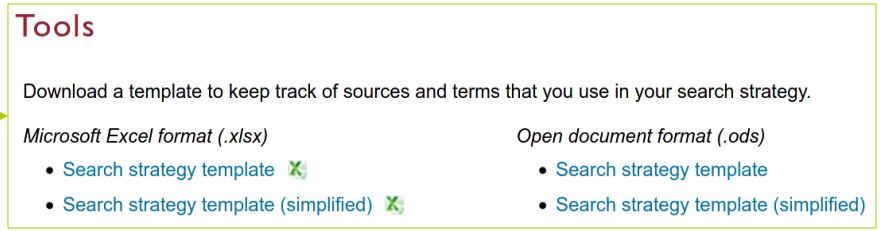
Note: the Communication Abstracts DB has over 240000 records but this search ends up without results.

How can we improve our search?

1042 sources of articles (journals), why no initial results?

Identify key concepts

How do animal photos shared on social media, affect mental well-being?



Tools

Download a template to keep track of sources and terms that you use in your search strategy.

Microsoft Excel format (.xlsx)

- Search strategy template
- Search strategy template (simplified)

Open document format (.ods)

- Search strategy template
- Search strategy template (simplified)

Brainstorm & track related terms

https://www.concordia.ca/library/guides/communication-studies.html#2

Creating a search strategy

How do animal photos shared on social media, affect mental well-being?

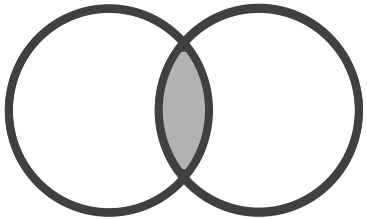
Concept 1 OR Synonym

AND Concept 2 OR Synonym

AND Concept 3 OR Synonym

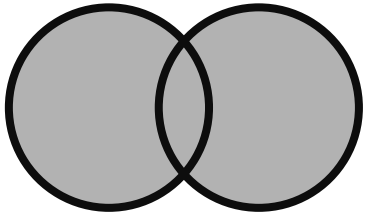
Boolean operators

AND



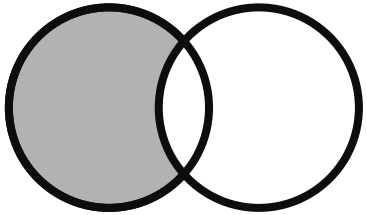
Narrows search

OR



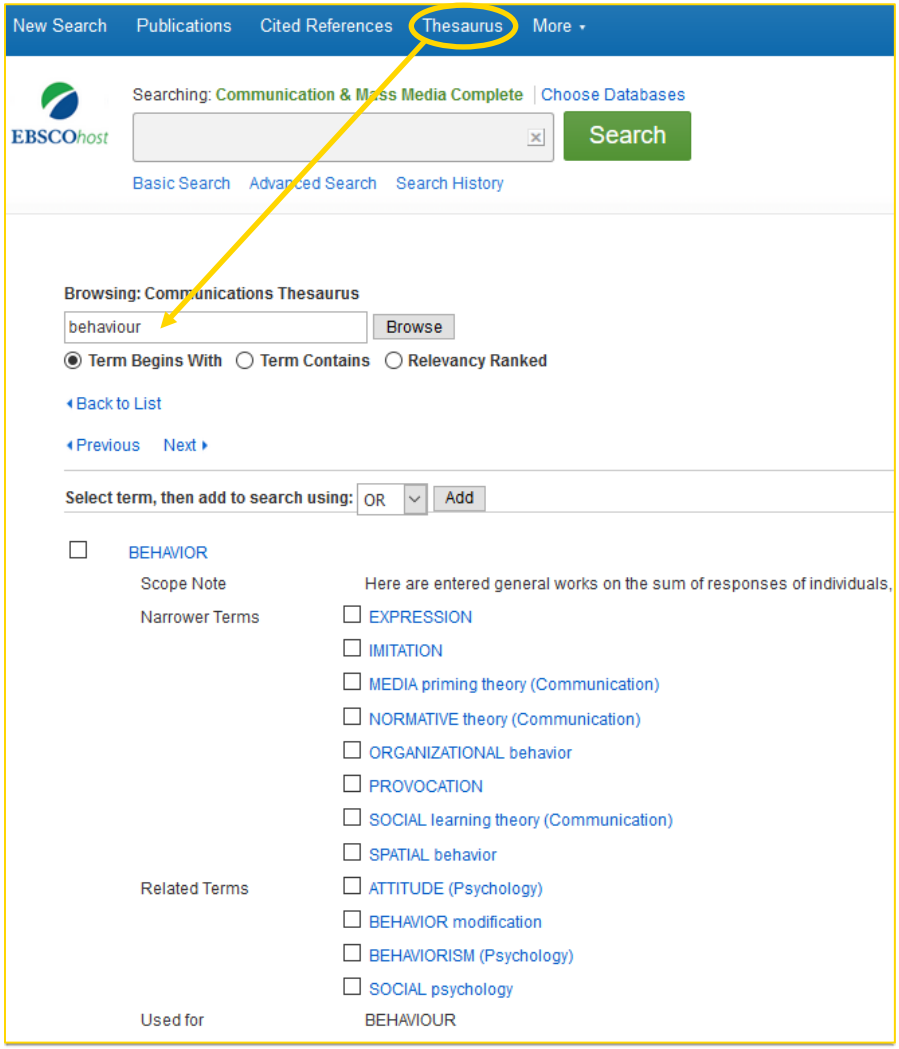
Broadens search

NOT



Narrows search

Controlled vocabulary of the database



Try also:

wordnik.com
thesaurus.com
wikipedia.org

Search expressions and strategy

Search tip: **truncation**

wellness = wellness

well* = well OR well**ness** OR well**-being** OR well**being**

Search expressions and strategy

Search tip: **quotation marks**

social media = social AND media

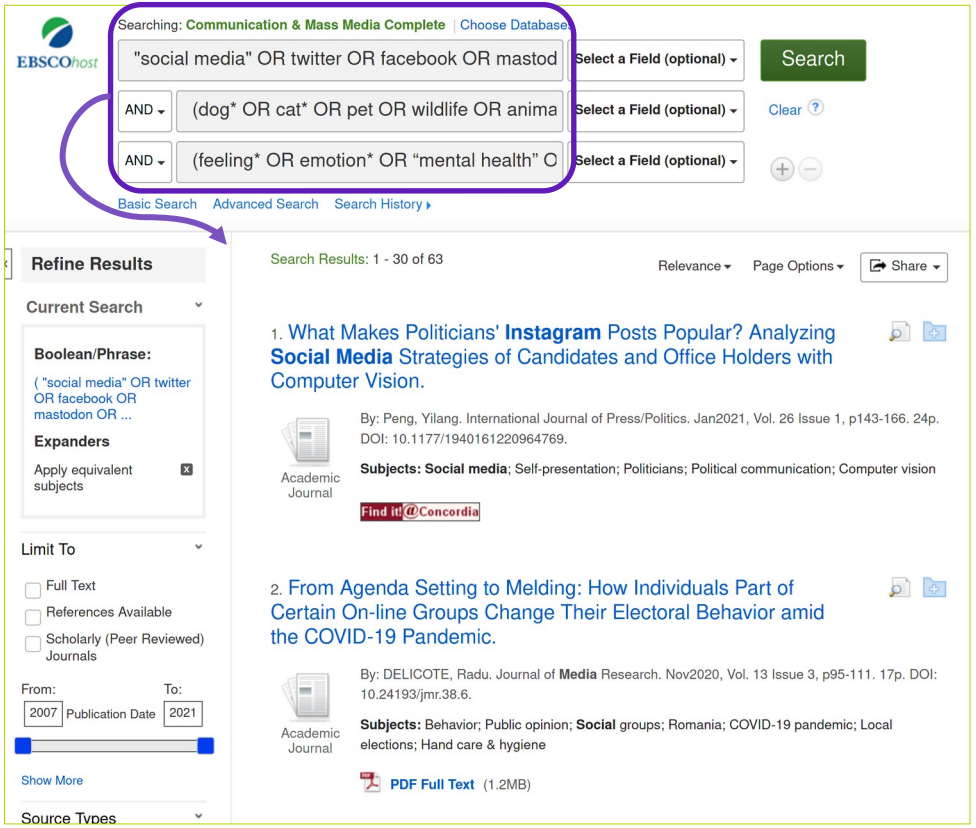
“social media” = phrase search

Synonyms (OR field) with more terms helped expand our results

"social media" OR twitter OR facebook OR mastodon OR instagram OR tiktok

(dog* OR cat OR pet OR wildlife OR animal*) AND (photo* OR picture* OR image* OR video*)

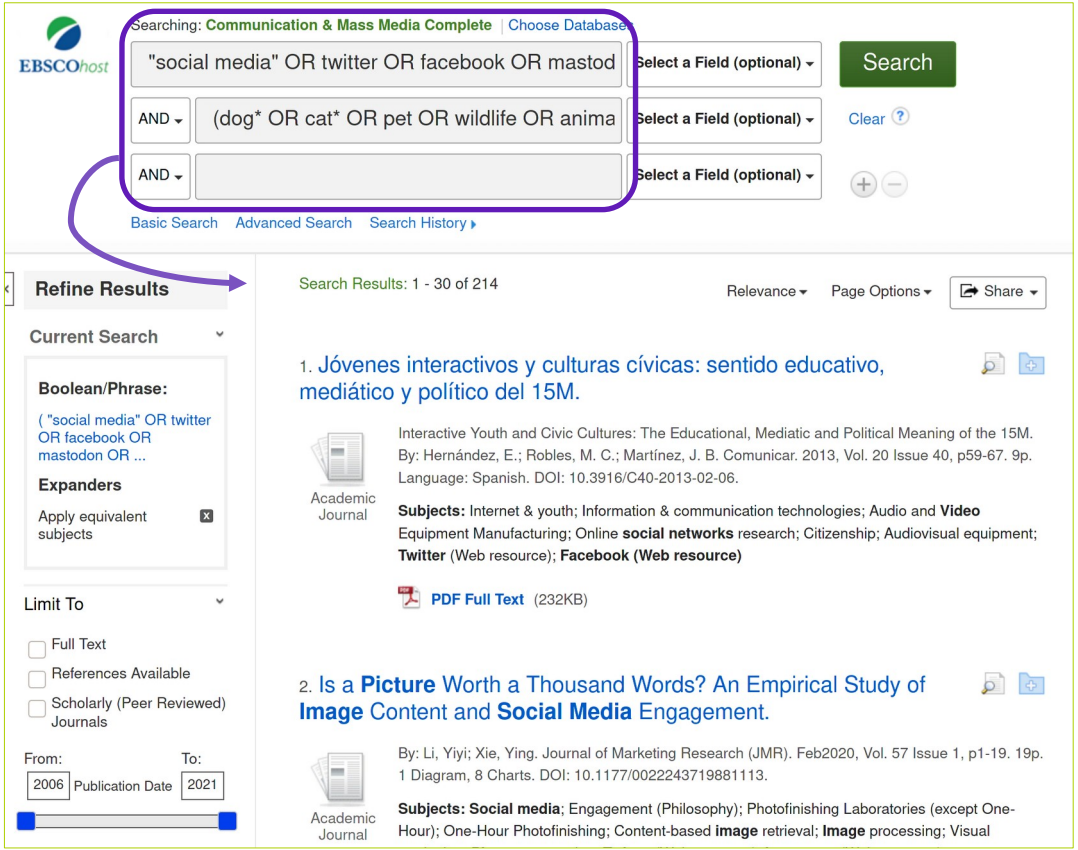
(feeling* OR emotion* OR “mental health” OR well* OR depression OR happ* OR anxi*)



Fewer concepts (AND fields) retrieves more results but these may be less precise

"social media" OR twitter OR facebook OR mastodon OR instagram OR tiktok

(dog* OR cat OR pet OR wildlife OR animal*) AND (photo* OR picture* OR image* OR video*)



Search expressions and strategy

Search tip: **proximity (near/within)**

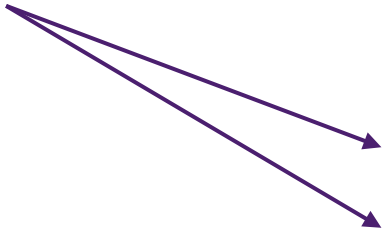
tourist behaviour → *tour* AND behav**

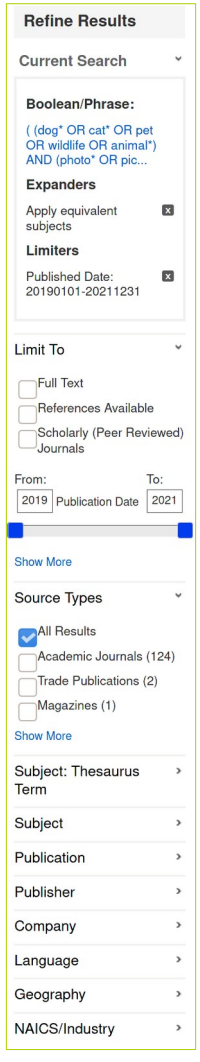
- We live in Montreal but behave just like crazy tourists every weekend.
- “Behave yourself!” Said the boy’s mother during the museum tour.

tour* **N2** behave* = max. 2 words between

tour* **W2** behave* = max. 2 words between & in order

Use limits to filter results





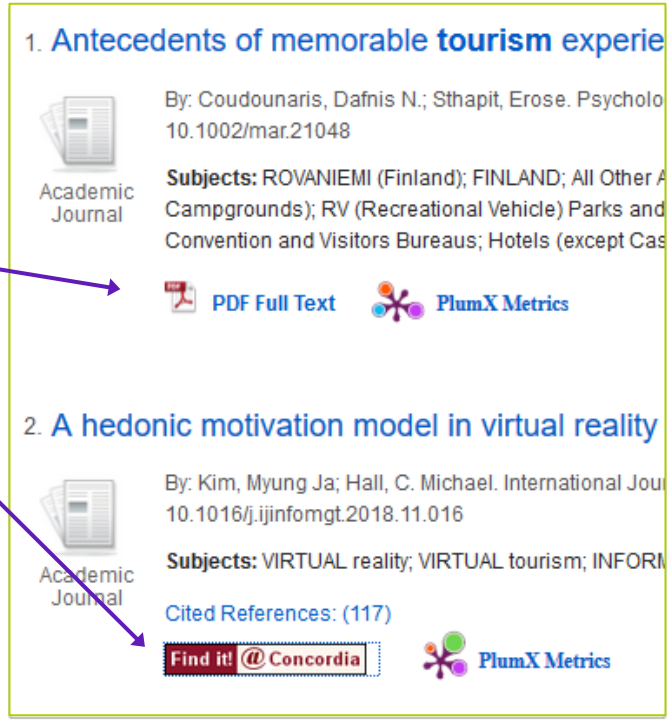
Capturing bibliographic information
&
Getting documents into Zotero (demo)

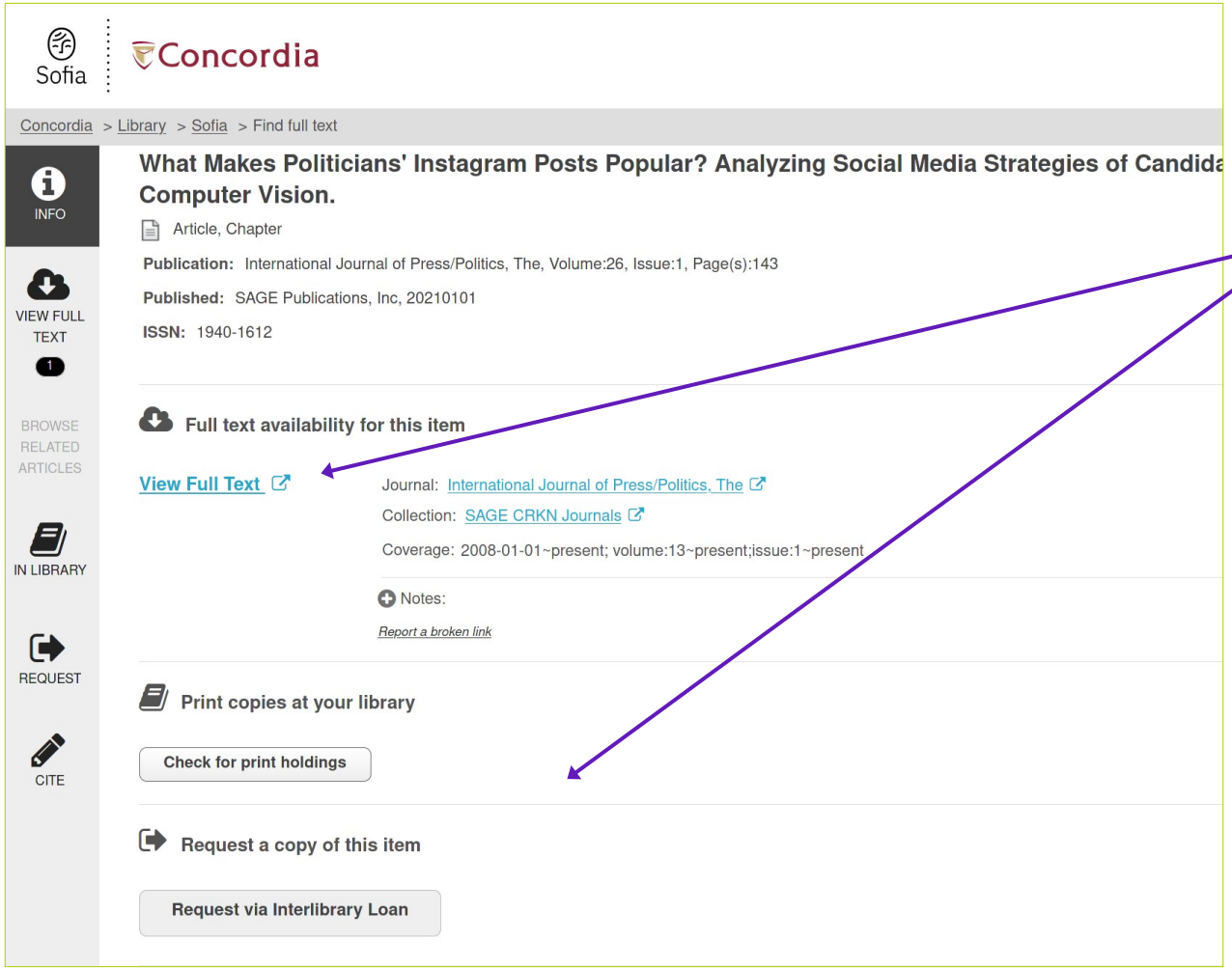
Mouse icon image: Cursor by Aquene Ardeen from the Noun Project

I found an article I want in (e.g.) the Communication Abstracts DB. How do I get the full text?

1. **PDF Full text** link
2. **Find it! @ Concordia** button
3. Request through

   Interlibrary Loan
4. **Ask a Librarian** if you need help

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Computer Vision.
Article, Chapter
Publication: International Journal of Press/Politics, The, Volume:26, Issue:1, Page(s):143
Published: SAGE Publications, Inc, 20210101
ISSN: 1940-1612
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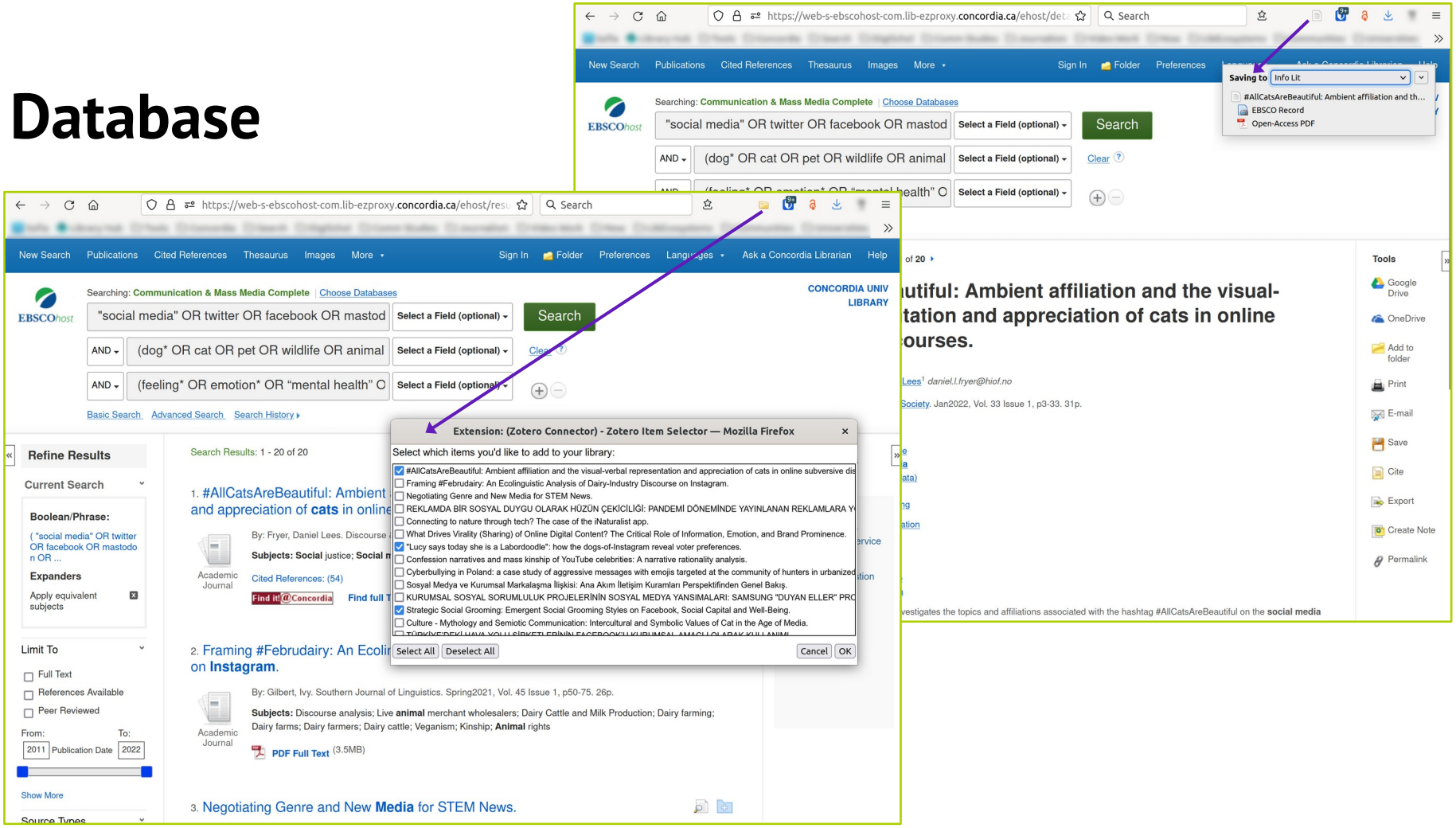
Database


New Search
Publications
Cited References
Thesaurus
Images
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Sign In
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Ask a Concordia Librarian
Help
Searching: Communication & Mass Media Complete
Choose Databases
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References Available
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2011
Publication Date
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Show More
Search Results: 1 - 20 of 20
1. #AllCatsAreBeautiful: Ambient
and appreciation of cats in onlin
By: Fryer, Daniel Lees. Discourse
Academic Journal
Subjects: Social justice; Social
Cited References: (54)
Find it @Concordia
Find full T
2. Framing #Februdairy: An Ecoli
on Instagram.
By: Gilbert, Ivy. Southern Journal of Linguistics. Spring2021, Vol. 45 Issue 1, p50-75. 26p.
Academic Journal
Subjects: Discourse analysis; Live animal merchant wholesalers; Dairy Cattle and Milk Production; Dairy farming; Dairy farms; Dairy farmers; Dairy cattle; Veganism; Kinship; Animal rights
PDF Full Text (3.5MB)
3. Negotiating Genre and New Media for STEM News.
Extension: (Zotero Connector) - Zotero Item Selector — Mozilla Firefox
Select which items you'd like to add to your library:
#AllCatsAreBeautiful: Ambient affiliation and the visual-verbal representation and appreciation of cats in online subversive dis
Framing #Februdairy: An Ecolinguistic Analysis of Dairy-Industry Discourse on Instagram.
Negotiating Genre and New Media for STEM News.
REKLAMDA BİR SOSYAL DUYGU OLARAK HÜZÜN ÇEKİCİLİĞİ: PANDEMİ DÖNEMİNDE YAYINLANAN REKLAMLARA Y
Connecting to nature through tech? The case of the iNaturalist app.
What Drives Virality (Sharing) of Online Digital Content? The Critical Role of Information, Emotion, and Brand Prominence.
"Lucy says today she is a Labordoodle": how the dogs-of-Instagram reveal voter preferences.
Confession narratives and mass kinship of YouTube celebrities: A narrative rationality analysis.
Cyberbullying in Poland: a case study of aggressive messages with emojis targeted at the community of hunters in urbanized
Sosyal Medya ve Kurumsal Markalaşma İlişkisi: Ana Akım İletişim Kuramları Perspektifinden Genel Bakış.
KURUMSAL SOSYAL SORUMLULUK PROJELERİNİN SOSYAL MEDYA YANSIMALARI: SAMSUNG "DUYAN ELLER" PRO
Strategic Social Grooming: Emergent Social Grooming Styles on Facebook, Social Capital and Well-Being.
Culture - Mythology and Semiotic Communication: Intercultural and Symbolic Values of Cat in the Age of Media.
Select All
Deselect All
Cancel
OK
Saving to
Info Lit
#AllCatsAreBeautiful: Ambient affiliation and th...
EBSCO Record
Open-Access PDF
Tools
Google Drive
OneDrive
Add to folder
Print
E-mail
Save
Cite
Export
Create Note
Permalink
Lees daniel.l.fryer@hiof.no
Society. Jan2022, Vol. 33 Issue 1, p3-33. 31p.
vestigates the topics and affiliations associated with the hashtag #AllCatsAreBeautiful on the social media

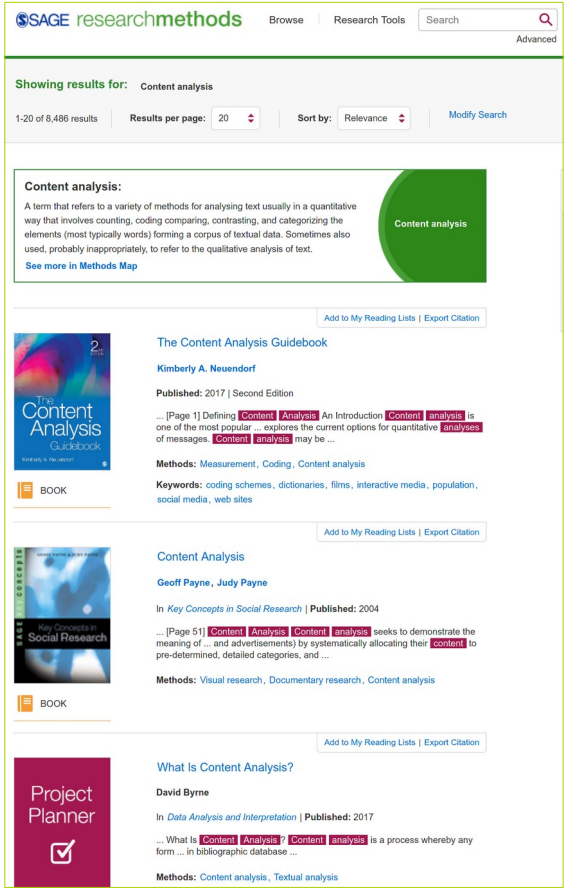
Books, ebooks, film/video, music, more…

Use **Sofia** to search the **Library catalogue:**
https://concordiauniversity.on.worldcat.org

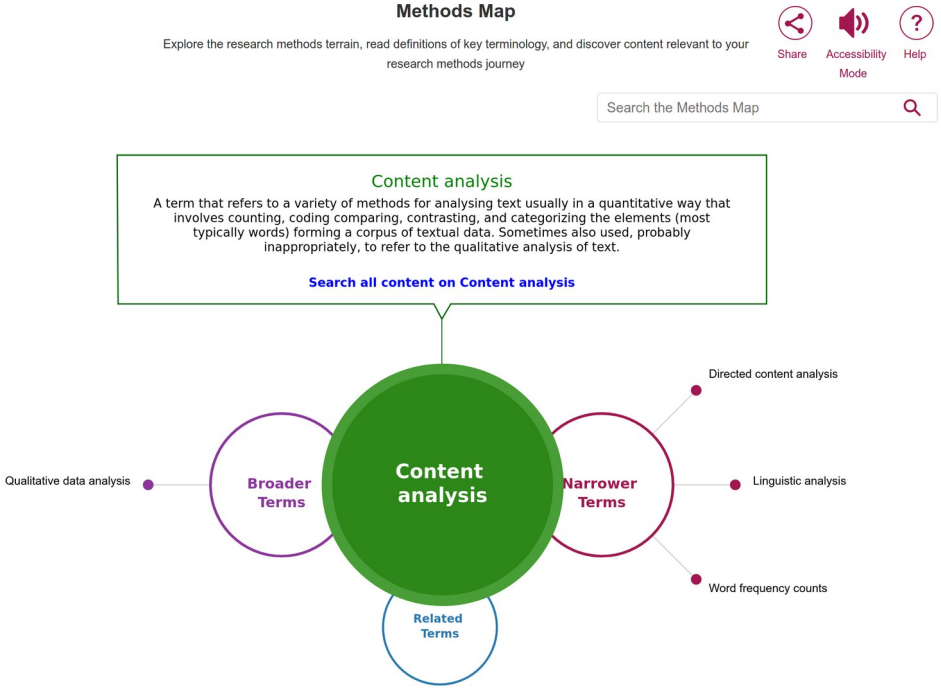
Search using an expression like you would for databases:

1) Break question into research topics
2) Brainstorm search terms and synonyms
3) Create an expression with the concepts and synonyms using **AND** and **OR** operators
4) Use filters to **refine** your search for the materials you need

Sage Research Methods database

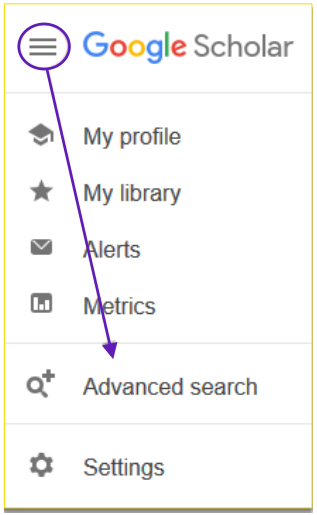


What research methods are discussed in literature relevant to your topic? *e.g.*



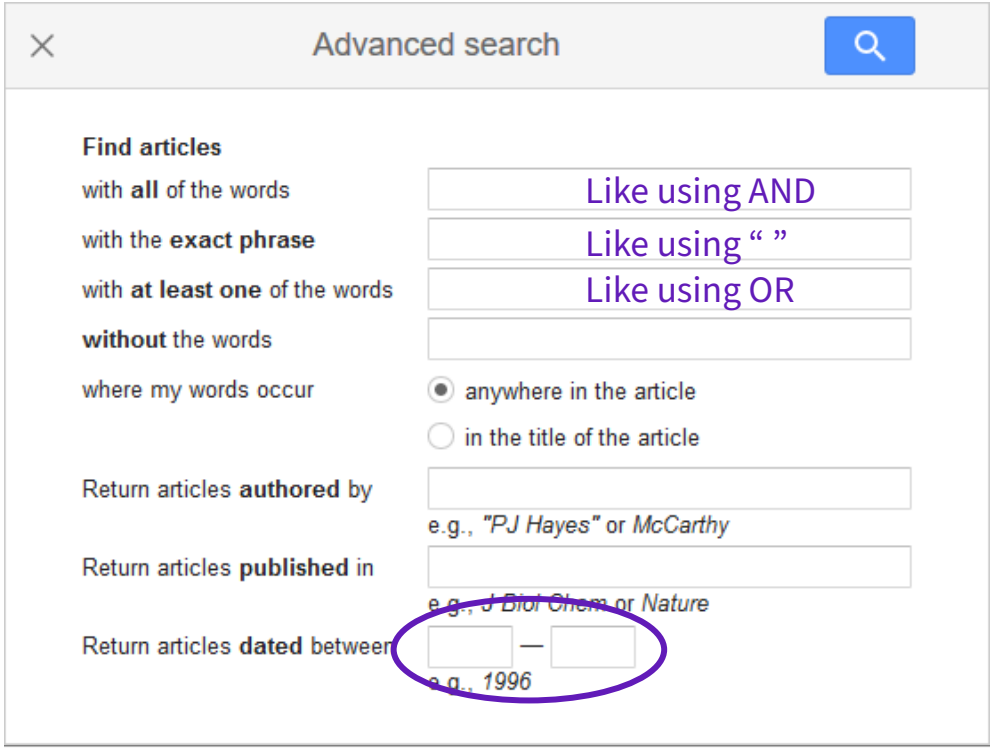
https://methods-sagepub-com.lib-ezproxy.concordia.ca

Tips for using https://scholar.google.ca



Also try semanticscholar.org, lens.org, and scholar.archive.org

Google Scholar Tips

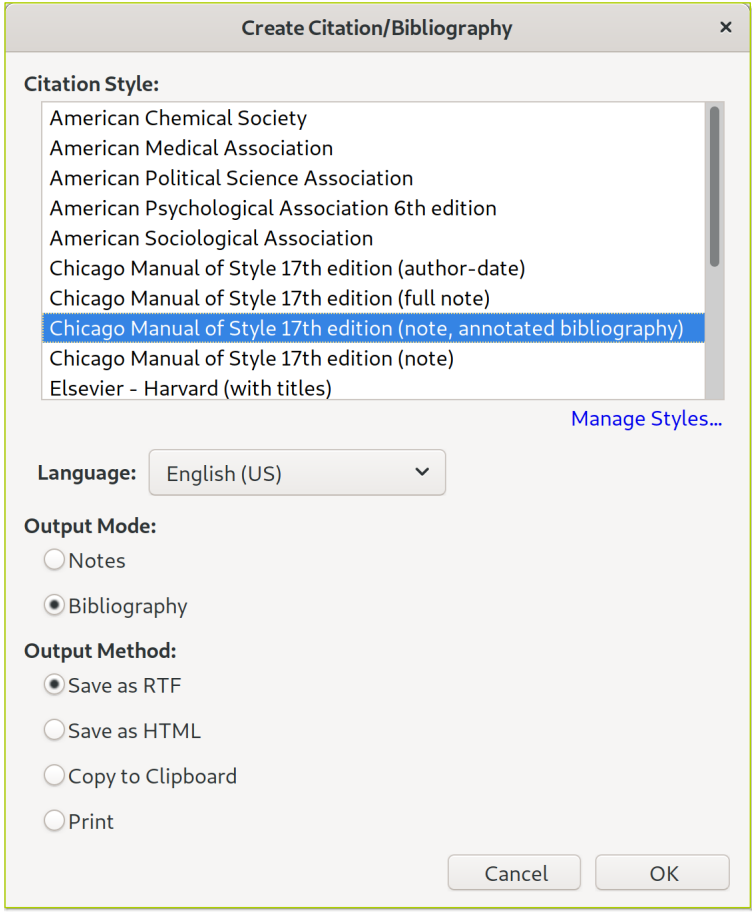


Citing sources & making bibliographies

Creating a bibliography

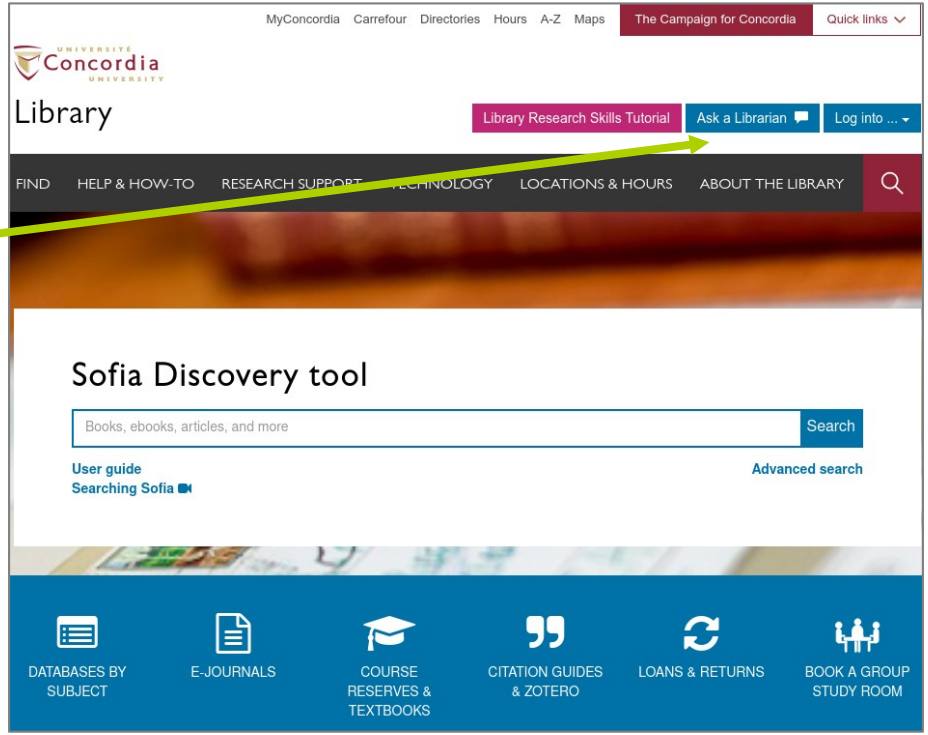
zotero

- Easily insert citations while you're writing
- Create a bibliography *for you* in Chicago style, MLA, APA, or hundreds of other styles
- Collaborate using a shared, library of sources and word processor



Questions? How to get more help.

- In person at the Reference desk (Vanier) or Ask Us! desk (Webster)
- Subject guide
- Online chat



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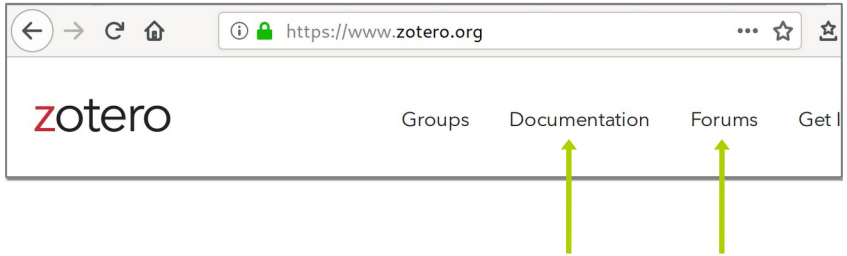
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