



GPLL 231

LIBRARY SKILLS AND RESROUCES:  
**MAXIMIZING YOUR GRADUATE  
RESEARCH POTENTIAL**

Megan Fitzgibbons + Andrea Harland

Companion library web page: Fundamentals for Graduates: <https://bit.ly/gpll231>

# Objectives for today

Our workshop page:

Library Skills & Resources <https://bit.ly/gpll231>

## Discovering services & resources

- Where on the library web site can you find services and perks just for graduate students?
- When and how can you seek in-depth research assistance from Concordia subject specialists?
- When and how can you use subject-specific tools to find resources?

## Accessing services & resources

- How can you access resources WITHIN Concordia?
- Optimizing access: how can you set up Google Scholar to find Concordia resources
- How can you access resources BEYOND Concordia?

# Getting to know you

First, each person in your group introduces themselves:

- What is your department/field and degree program?
- Why did you come to this workshop?

Next, as a group, decide:

What are the **top two topics** you would like to prioritize in today's workshop?

Finally, each group will report your top two priorities to the class.

# The topics



**Library services**  
for grad students



Research assistance from  
**subject specialists**



**Subject-specific tools**  
to find resources



**Accessing resources**  
available through  
Concordia



Accessing Concordia's  
resources through  
**Google Scholar**



Accessing  
**resources beyond**  
**Concordia**

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR  
**GRAD STUDENTS**

# The Libraries



Webster Library



Grey Nun's  
Reading Room



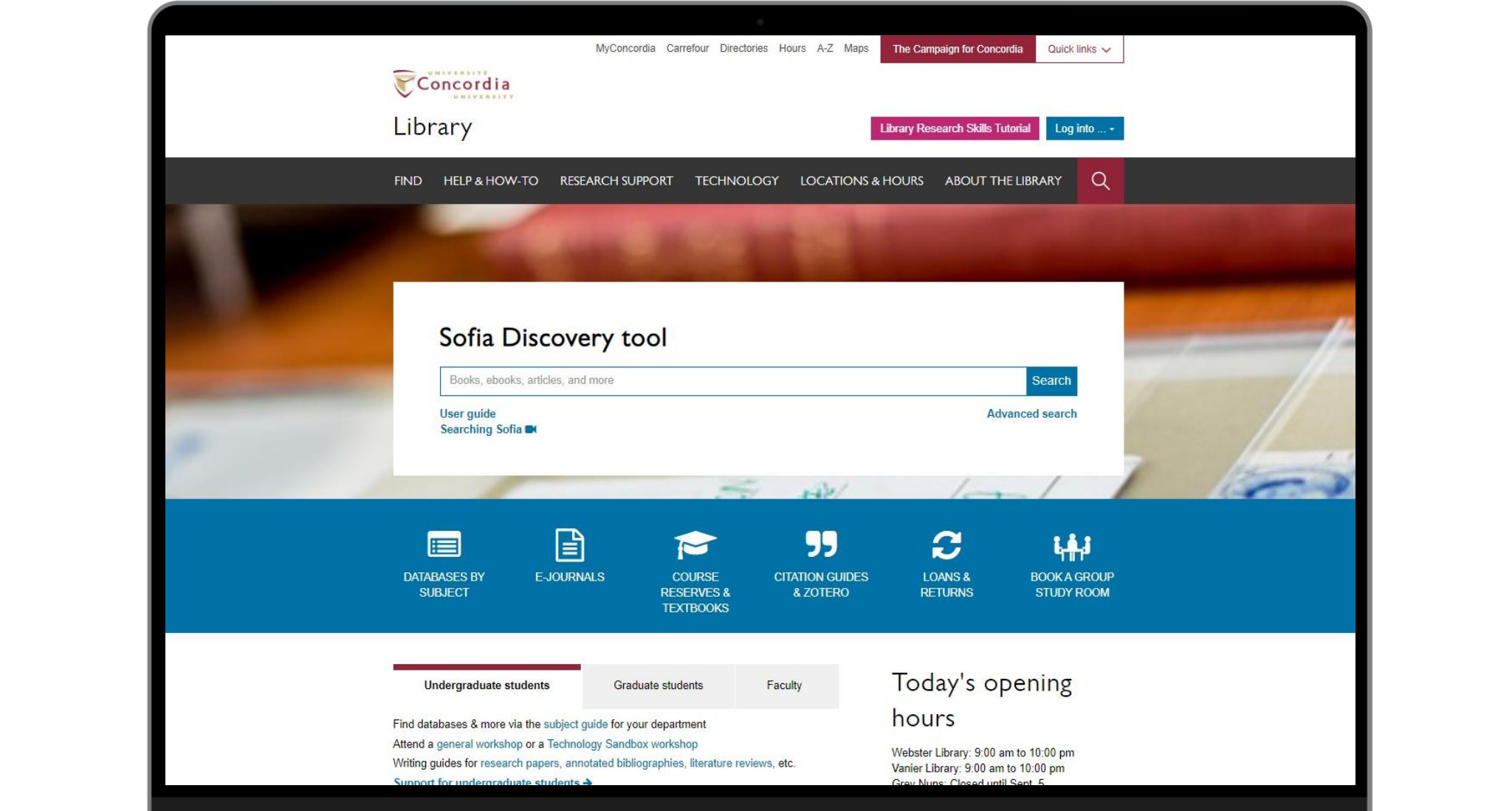
Vanier Library

# Borrowing at the library

Regularly circulating material loans out for 30 days and renews automatically if not on hold.

We also lend out quite a variety of equipment, with [different loan periods](#):

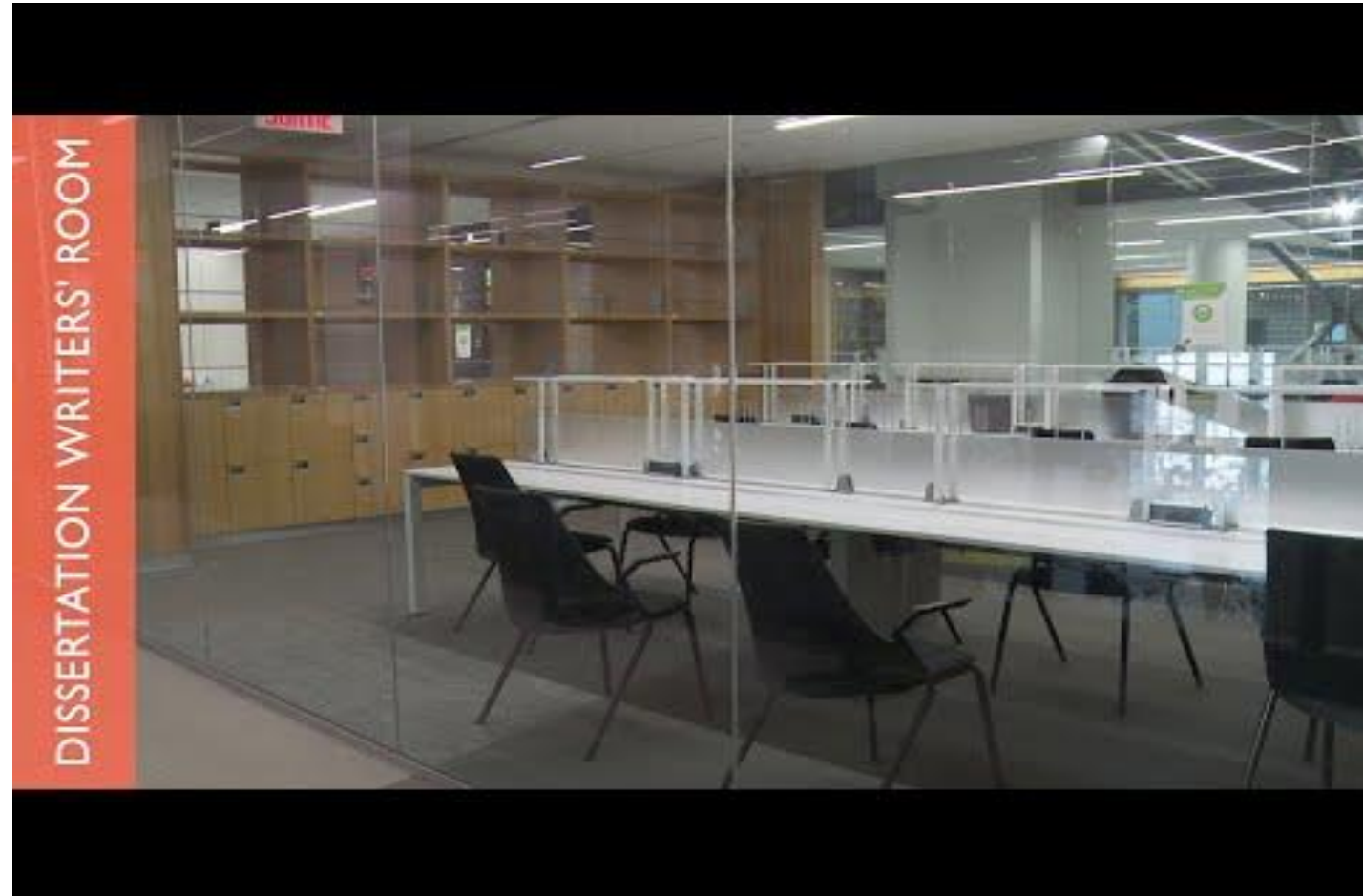




library.concordia.ca



# Webster 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

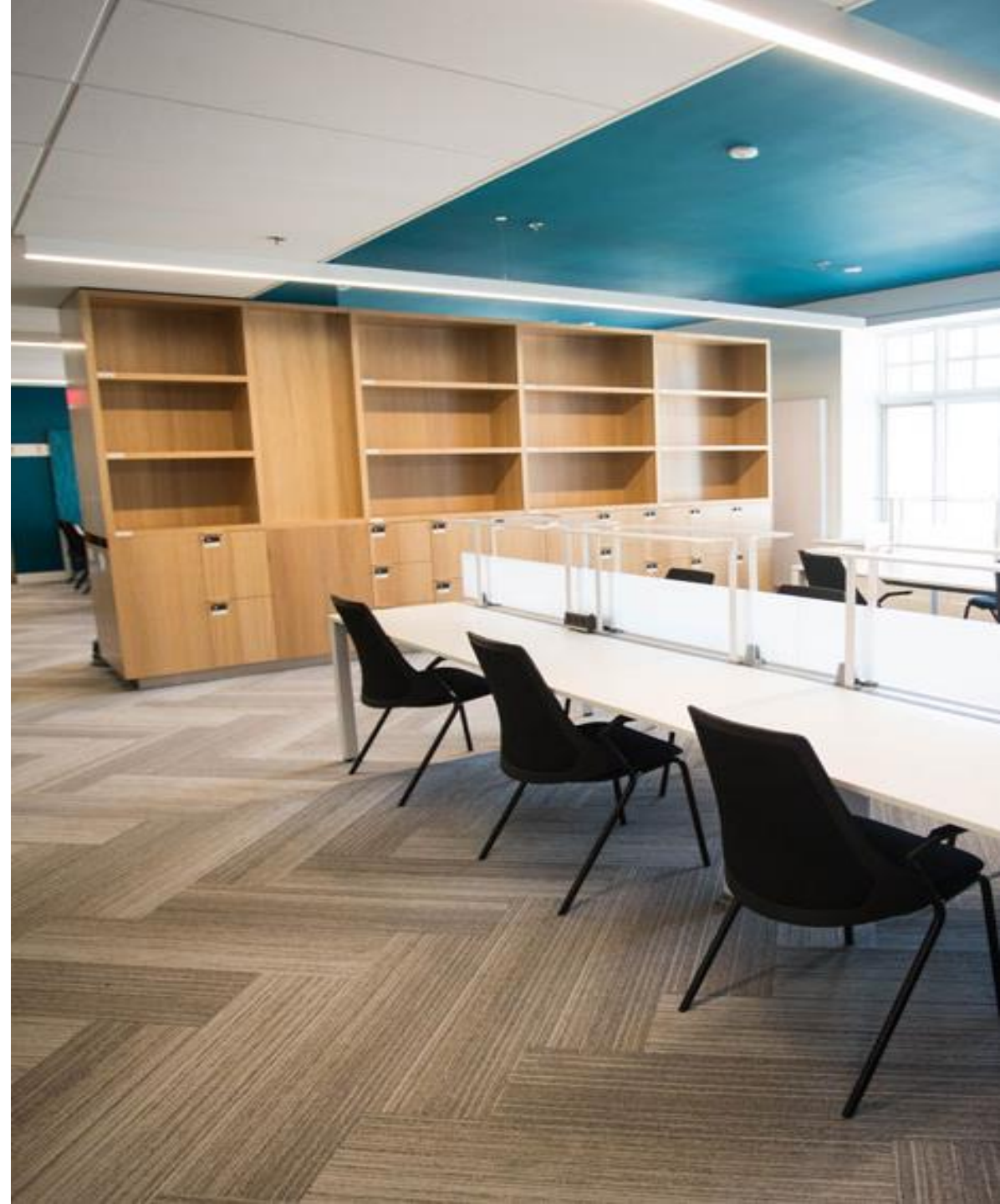


Video: [youtu.be/hWVuAGarPK0](https://youtu.be/hWVuAGarPK0)

Webster  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor

# Graduate spaces just for you

1. Quiet reading room
2. 4 Dissertation writers' rooms
3. Lounge
4. Kitchenette
5. Lockers & Shelves
6. Dedicated printer/copier/scanner



# Vanier 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor



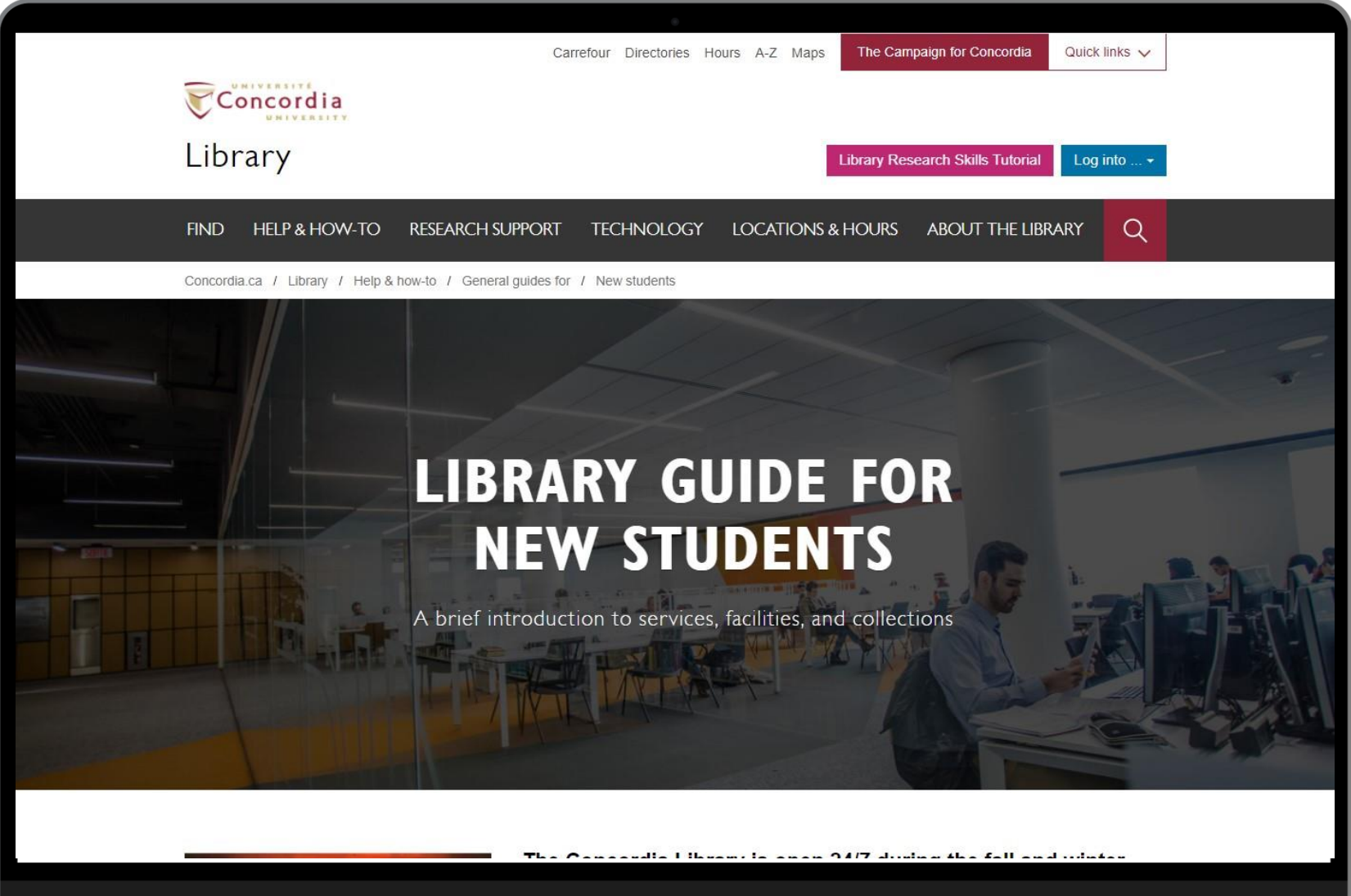
Video: [youtube.com/watch?v=o-Pj8y9jcts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-Pj8y9jcts)

Vanier  
Library

# Graduate spaces just for you

1. Quiet reading room
2. Assigned shelves
3. Obtain an access code when you arrive.





[library.concordia.ca/help/users/new-students](http://library.concordia.ca/help/users/new-students)

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE FROM  
**SUBJECT SPECIALISTS**



# Library

Library Research Skills Tutorial Log into ...

Concordia.ca / Library / Help & how-to / General guides for / Graduates

## Support for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows

Ask a Librarian

theses & dissertations Study spaces Guides Collections & tools



### Ask a Librarian

We're here to help. Each year, we regularly answer over 60,000 questions and offer over 400 workshops.

**Live Chat with a Librarian**  
Ask your question from anywhere and get a transcript for future reference

**Email**  
You should receive a response within 24 hours (with some exceptions)

**GradProSkills**  
The Library has partnered with GradProSkills every year to offer specialized Library workshops for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows

library.concordia.ca/services/users/grad/

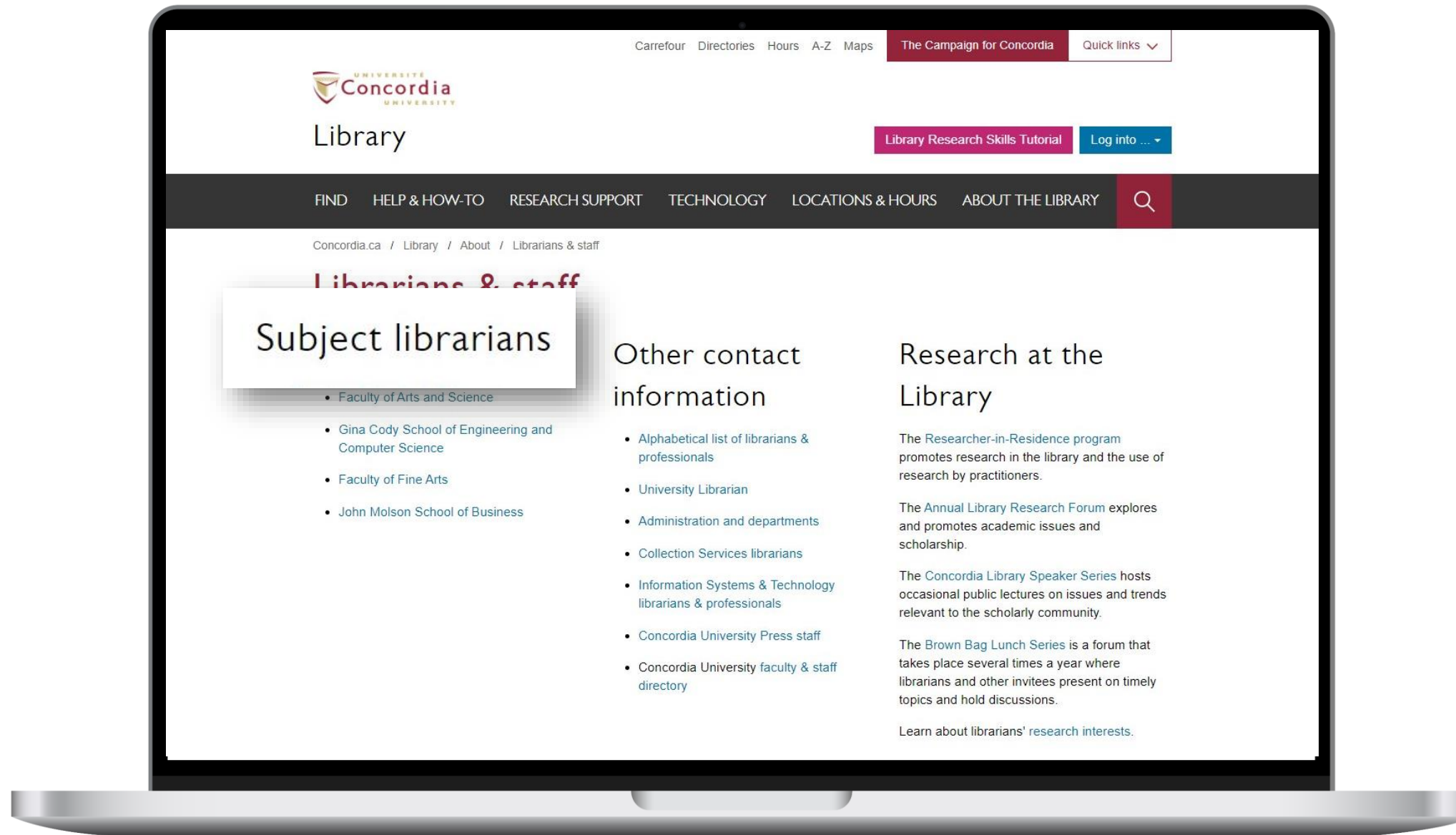
# Seeking Assistance

**1) Ask Us desk, chat, email, phone**  
for quick or general questions



**2) Contact your subject librarian**  
for more in-depth consultations





library.concordia.ca/services/users/grad/

SUBJECT SPECIFIC  
**RESOURCE TOOLS**

# YOUR TURN

Where do YOU usually start looking for information for your research?

Let's share some ideas in groups  
(approximately 5 minutes) and then report back

# Which of the following is NOT true?

1

Google Scholar can search all of the content that is in the library's databases.

2

Specialized databases (for your discipline) often provide parameters for building more precise searches.

3

There will be overlap in the search results from different databases, but there isn't a single search tool that finds everything.

# Which of the following is NOT true?

1

Google Scholar can search all of the content that is in the library's databases.

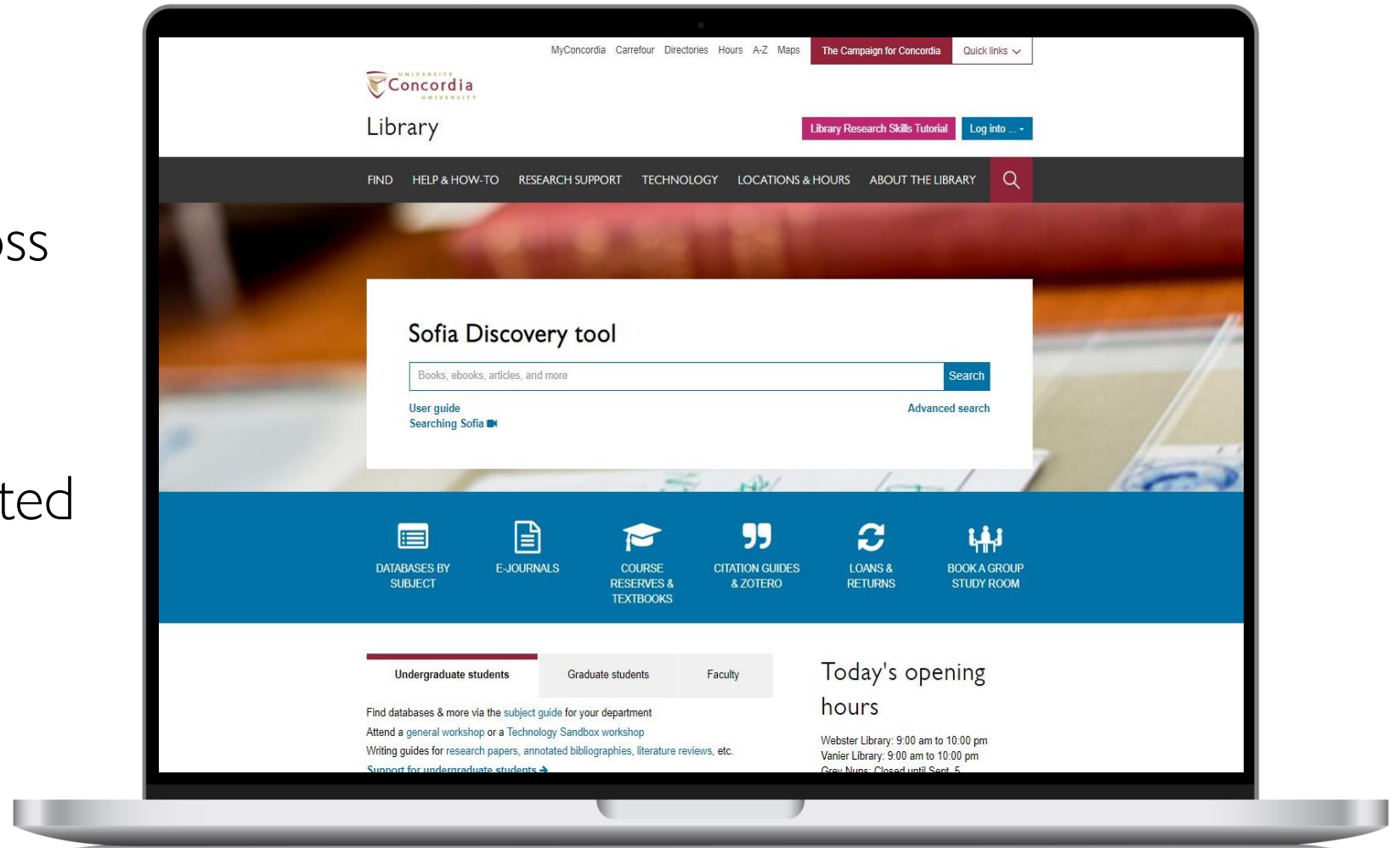
2

Specialized databases (for your discipline) often provide parameters for building more precise searches.

3

There will be overlap in the search results from different databases, but there isn't a single search tool that finds everything.

- A general search across library resources
- Good for getting started



Article databases are selected,  
**organized** sets of references that are  
**searchable by keyword**

Different from searching Google...

# Article databases

- Provide references to **articles** and other documents published in **journals**, which may or may not be in our library
- Subject-specific or multidisciplinary
- Index one or many types of documents
- Provide citations, abstracts or full-text articles



# What is the difference?

## Google Scholar



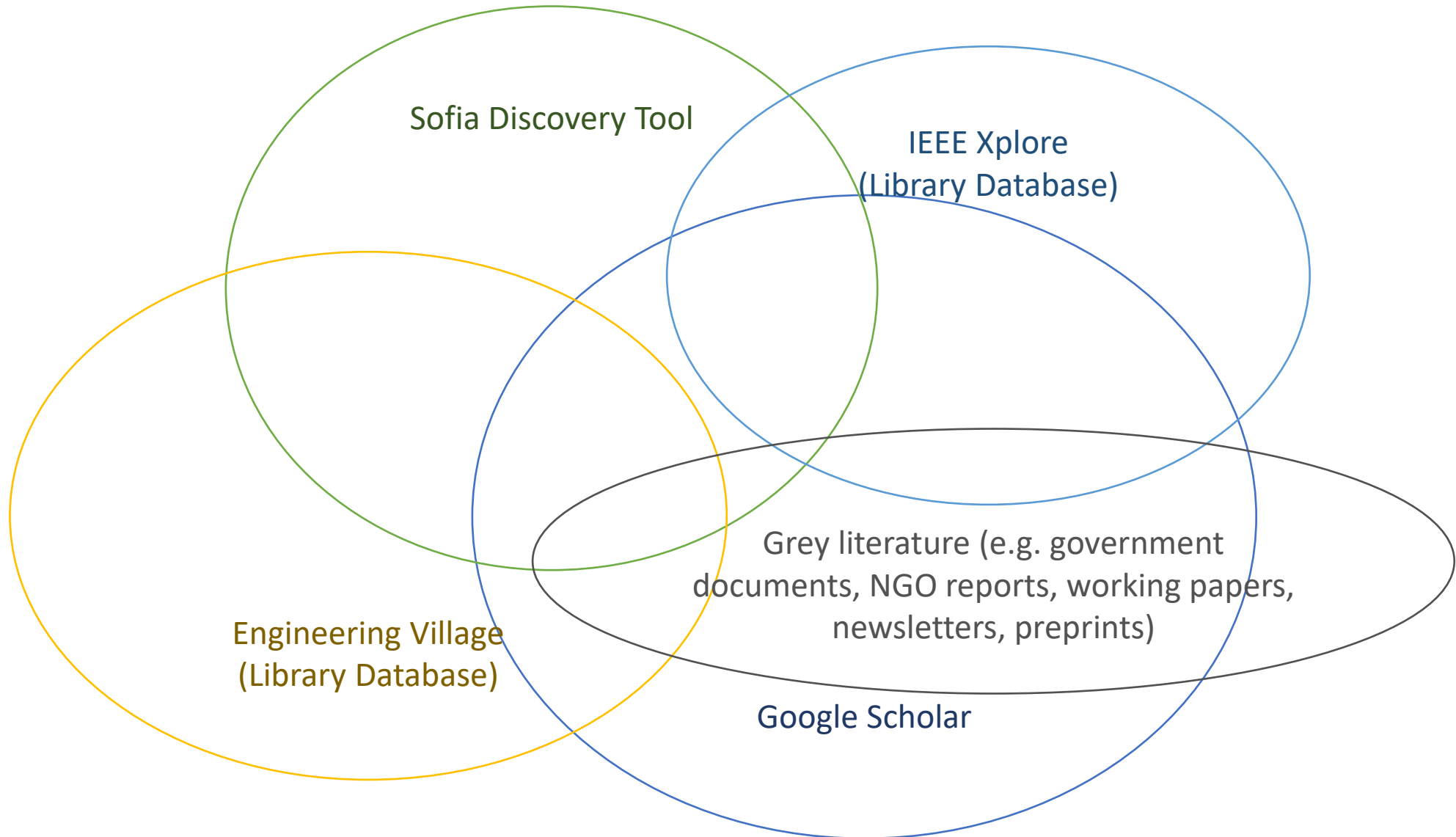
Volume | Quantity | Quick

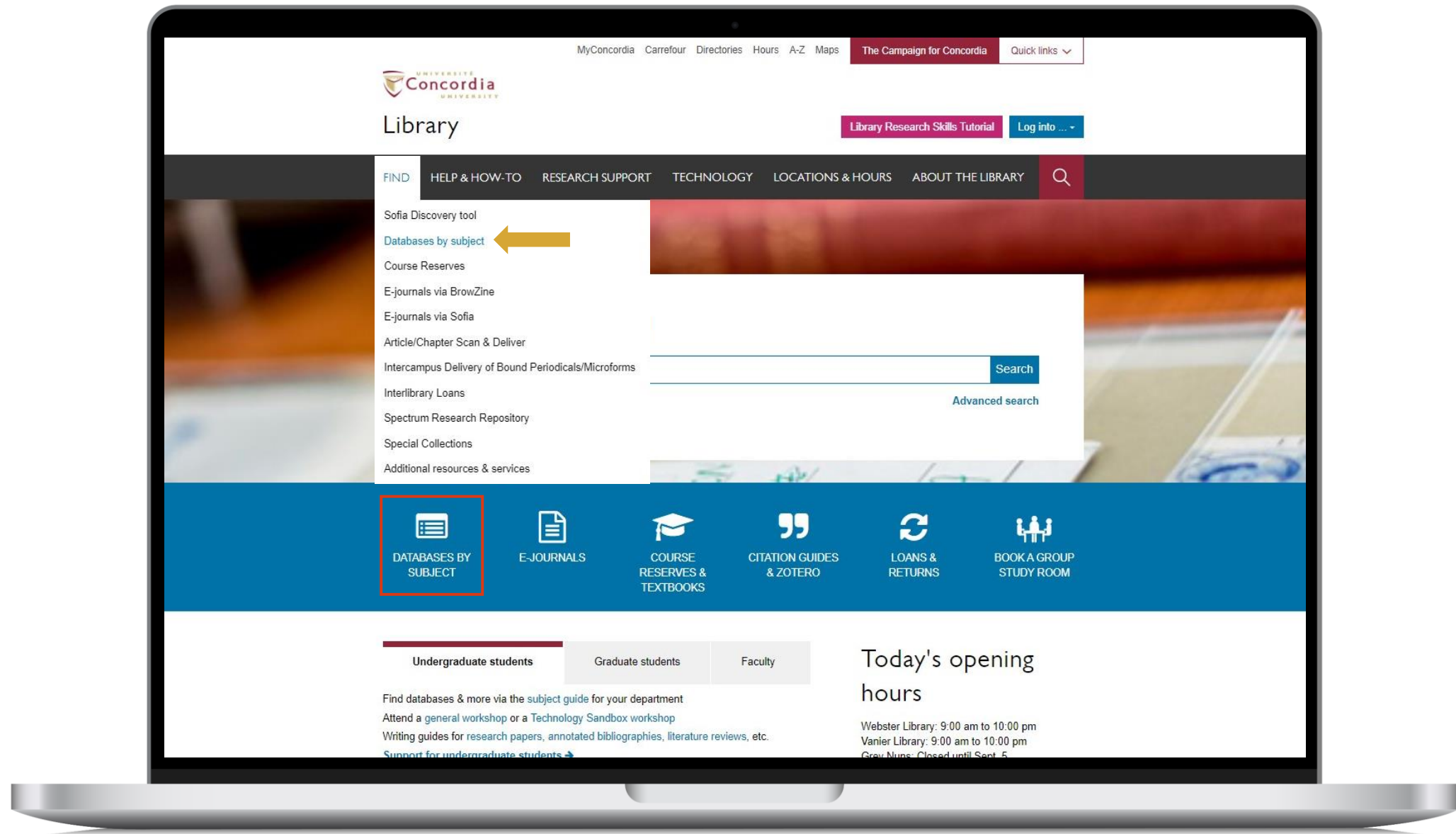
## Subject databases



Depth | Quality | Thorough

# Where should you search?





# Library

Library Research Skills Tutorial Log into ...

- FIND
- HELP & HOW-TO
- RESEARCH SUPPORT
- TECHNOLOGY
- LOCATIONS & HOURS
- ABOUT THE LIBRARY

- Sofia Discovery tool
- Databases by subject
- Course Reserves
- E-journals via BrowZine
- E-journals via Sofia
- Article/Chapter Scan & Deliver
- Intercampus Delivery of Bound Periodicals/Microforms
- Interlibrary Loans
- Spectrum Research Repository
- Special Collections
- Additional resources & services

Search

Advanced search

- DATABASES BY SUBJECT
- E-JOURNALS
- COURSE RESERVES & TEXTBOOKS
- CITATION GUIDES & ZOTERO
- LOANS & RETURNS
- BOOK A GROUP STUDY ROOM

- Undergraduate students
- Graduate students
- Faculty

Find databases & more via the [subject guide](#) for your department

Attend a [general workshop](#) or a [Technology Sandbox workshop](#)

Writing guides for [research papers](#), [annotated bibliographies](#), [literature reviews](#), etc.

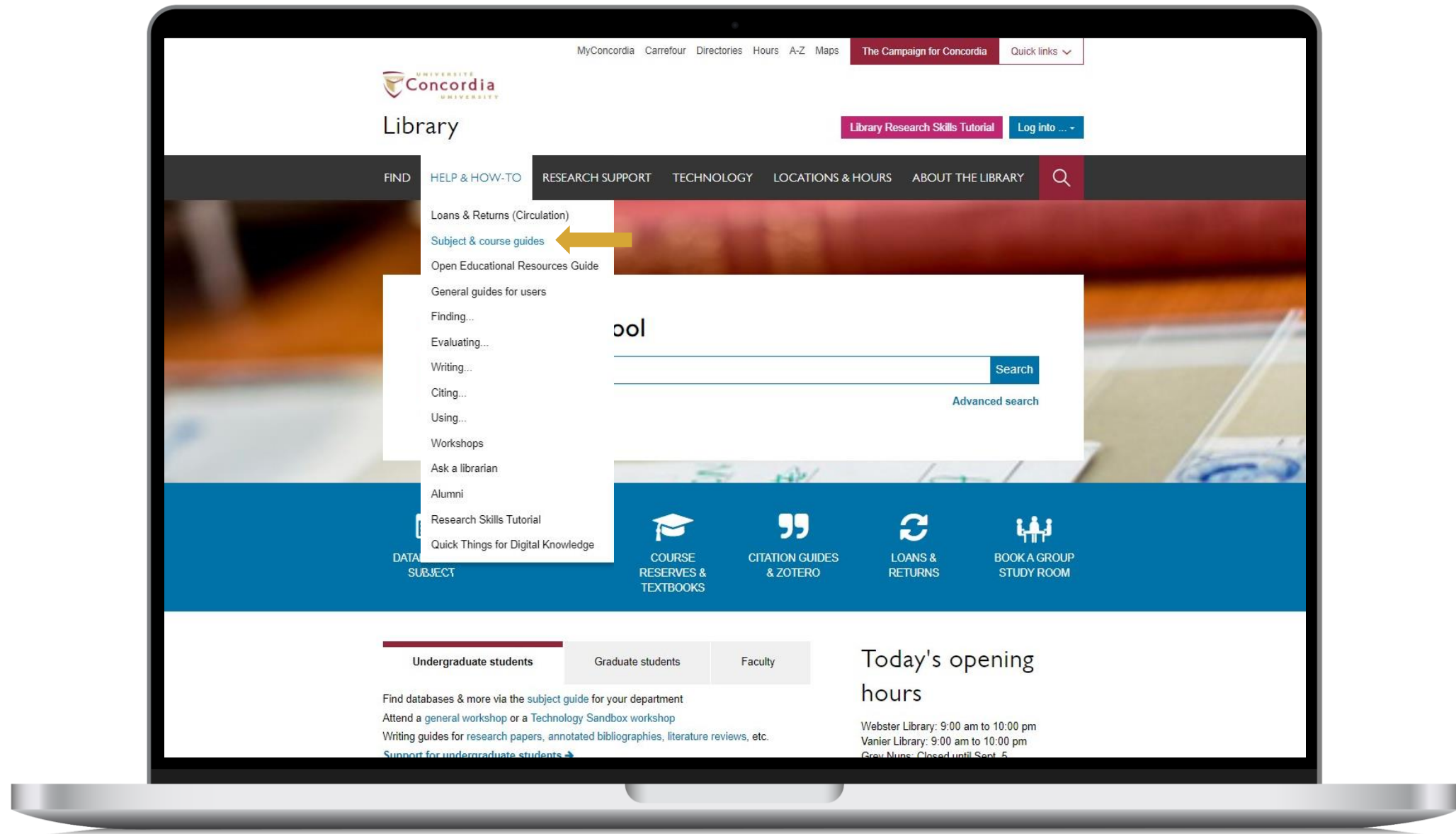
[Support for undergraduate students](#)

## Today's opening hours

Webster Library: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm

Vanier Library: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm

Grey Nuns: Closed until Sept. 5



library.concordia.ca



# Library

Library Research Skills Tutorial

Ask a Librarian

Log into ...



Concordia University / Library / Subject & course guides

## Subject & course guides

These guides are created and maintained by Concordia University subject librarians. On each guide you will find recommended resources by subject: databases, background sources, how-to guides, websites, and more.

- By subject
- A-Z list
- By course

Business | Engineering & Computer Science | Fine Arts | Humanities | Interdisciplinary | Science | Social Science



### Business

Business research portal

- Accountancy
- Finance
- Management
- Marketing
- MBA Guide
- Supply Chain & Business Technology Management



### Engineering & Computer Science

View the Guide

Includes resources for

Black Studies Subject Guide: Collections and recommended resources

Leisure Reading Guide: Books, graphic novels, DVDs, streaming videos, and music

Pikiskwétân Companion Resource Guides: Recommended resources to accompany the Indigenous Learning Series

## Related guides

- Government Information
- Indigenous Educational Resources
- Law & Criminal Justice
- Open Educational Resources (OER)

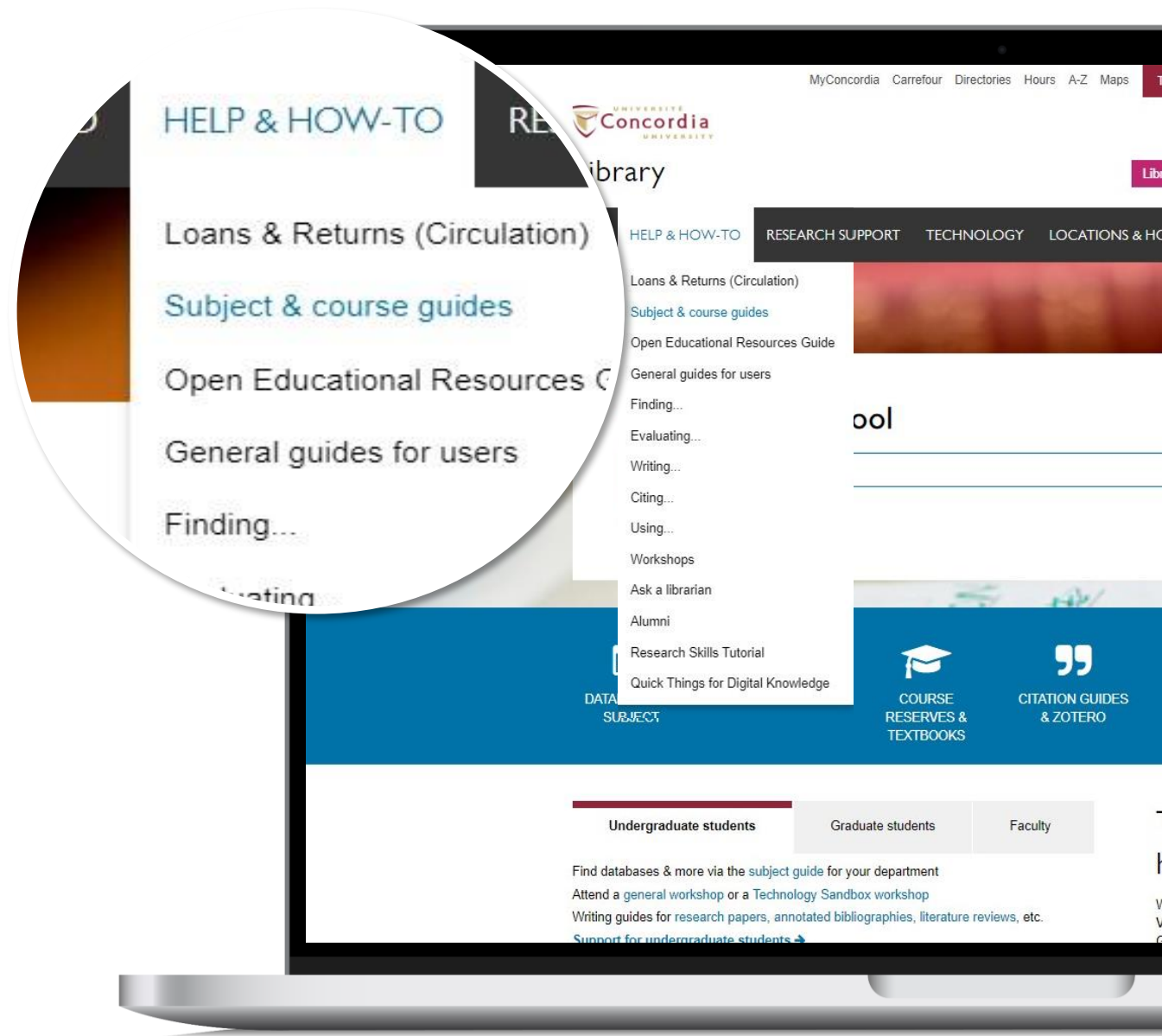
## Meet Your Subject Librarian

Meet Your Subject Librarian

# YOUR TURN

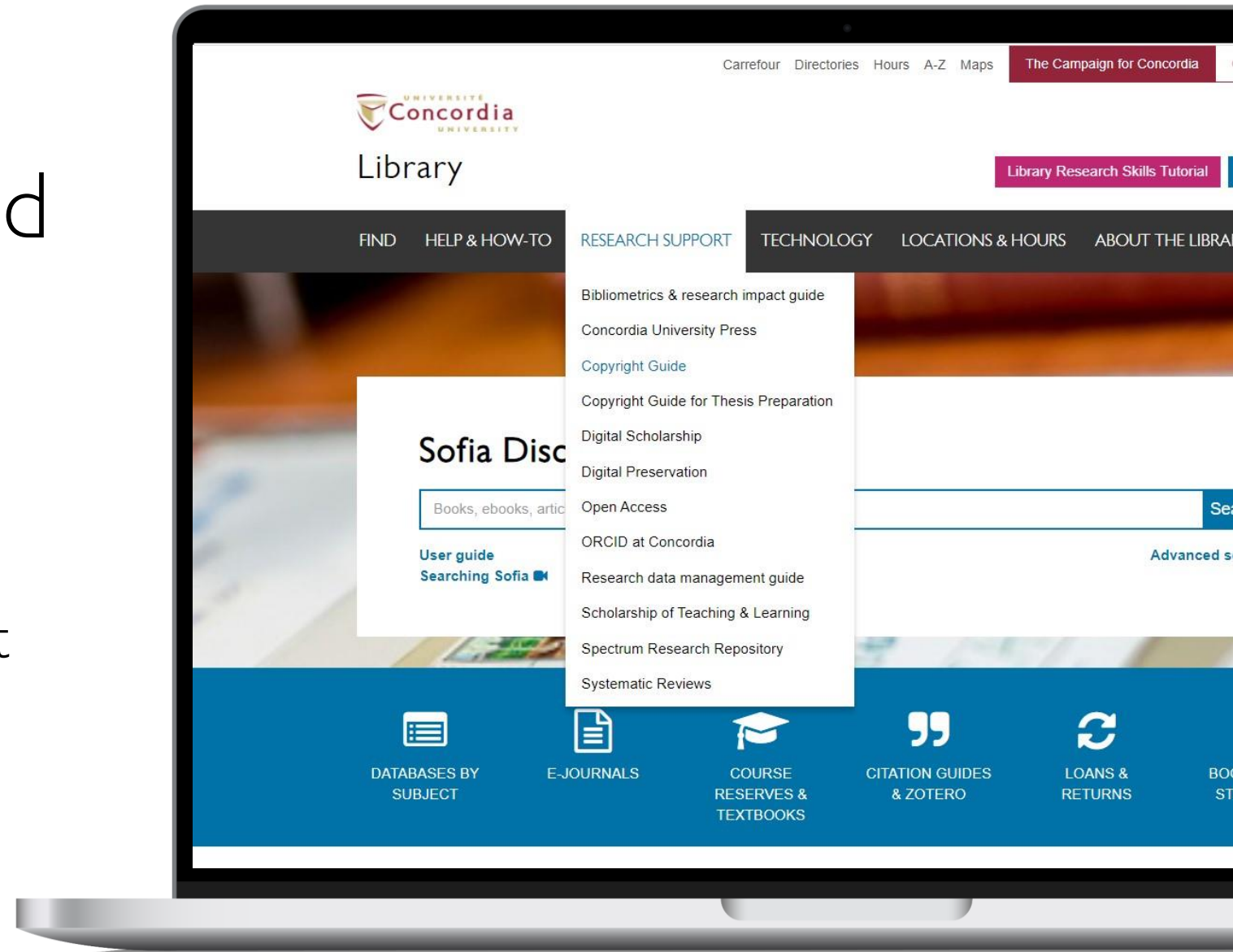
Find one subject-specific database in *your discipline* that is *new to you* and that you would like to try out on your own later.

1. Go to the Concordia Library website
2. Under HELP & HOW-TO – select: Subject & Course Guides
3. Find and select a Subject Guide relevant to you.  
ex: Education Subject Guide
4. Find a new Database in your subject area. ex: ERIC or Education Source
5. Let us know what you found!
6. Write your database's name on a whiteboard near you.



# Other resource and service guides

- Digital Scholarship
- Copyright
- Research Data Management
- Systematic Reviews

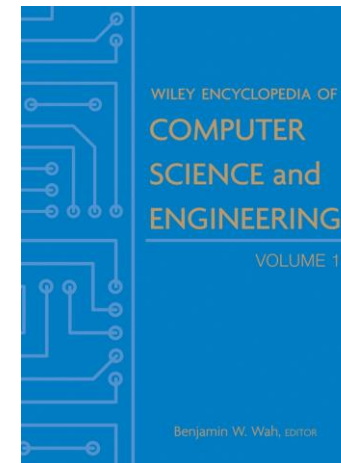




# Pro tip

Start from a really good bibliography or background resource!

See more in the [guide for this session](#)



How do you keep track of everything you find?

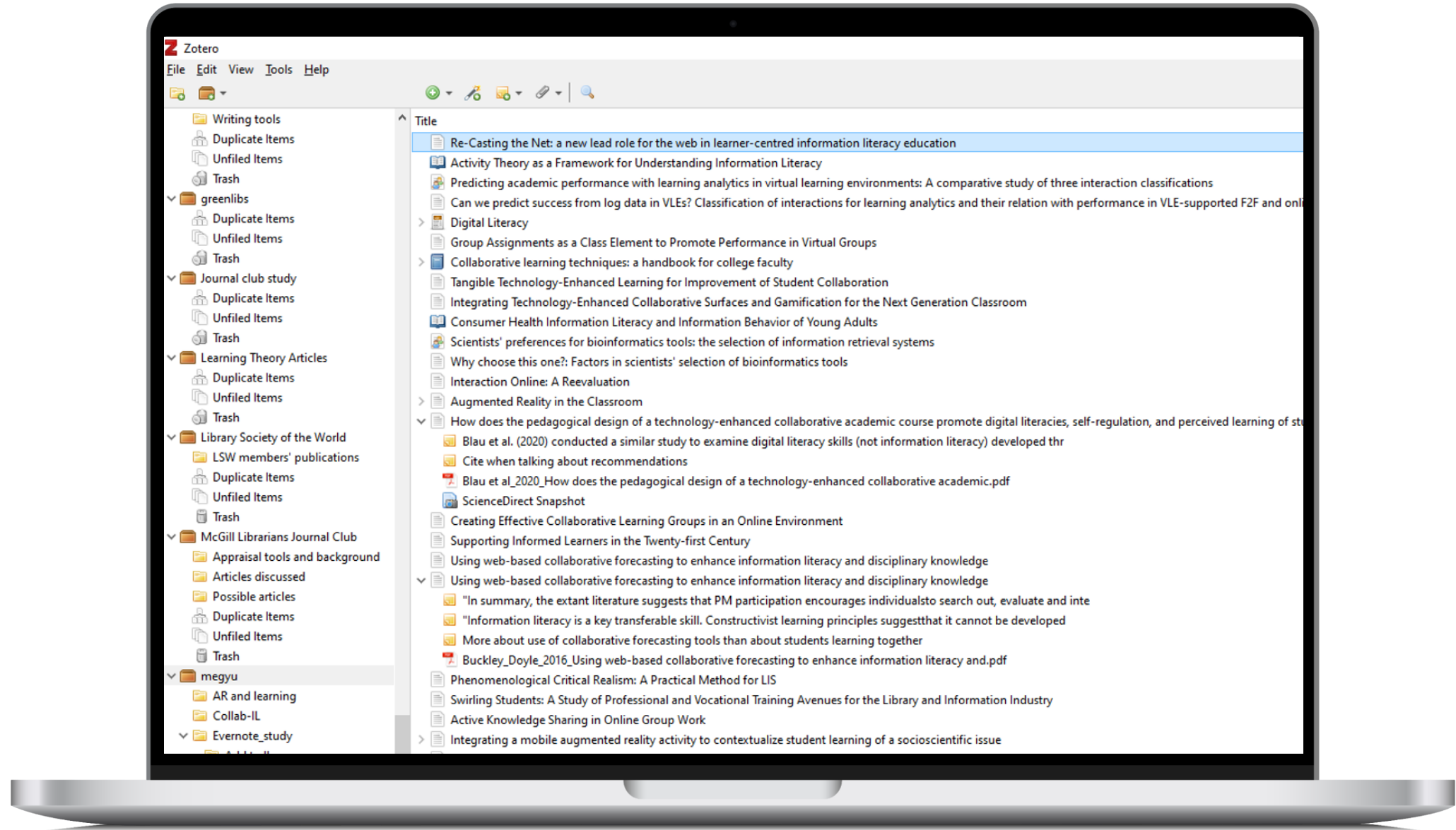
# zotero

**Bibliographic management software**

[Zotero general library workshops](#)

[Zotero GradProSkills workshops](#)

[Zotero library help page](#)



ACCESSING RESOURCES  
**AVAILABLE THROUGH  
CONCORDIA**

# YOUR TURN

Using Sofia answer the following questions:

1. Does Concordia Library own the following book?

Diverlus, R., Hudson, S., & Ware, S. M. (Eds.). (2020). *Until we are free : reflections on black lives matter in Canada*. University of Regina Press.

2. Does the Library have electronic access to the book?

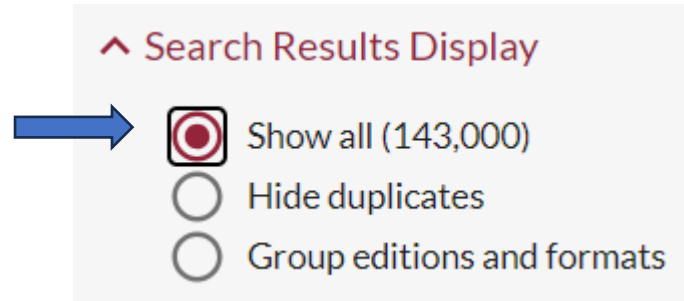
3. Does it have a paper copy? Is it available?

4. If you wanted to obtain the paper copy, what would you do?

5. What if you only wanted a scan of a chapter, what would you do?

# Sofia pro searching tips

- To see all editions (print and electronic) of a particular book – in your search results go to “Search Results Display” and choose “Show all”:



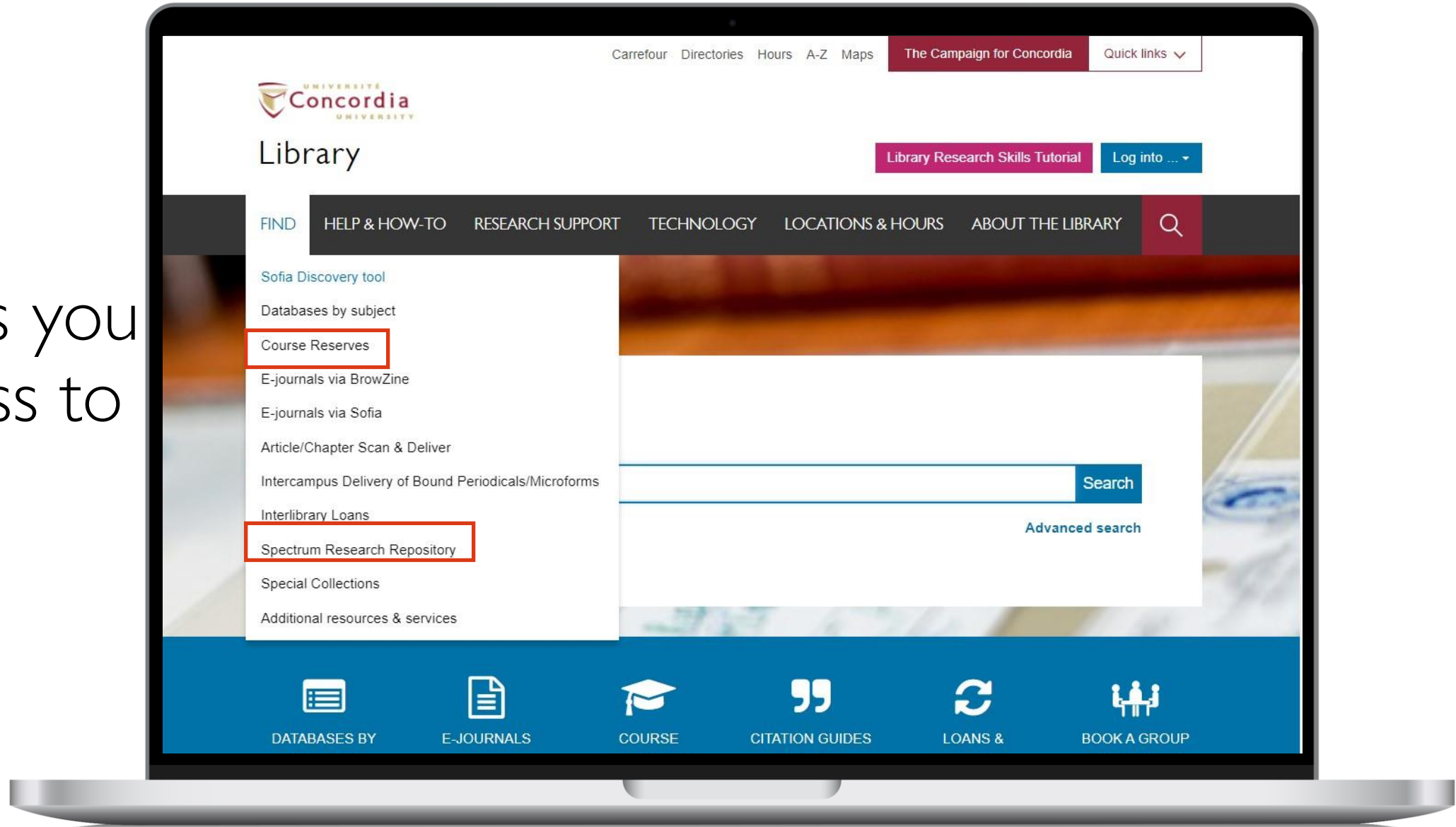
- To request an item at Concordia or from another Quebec University Library, use this button:

**Request**

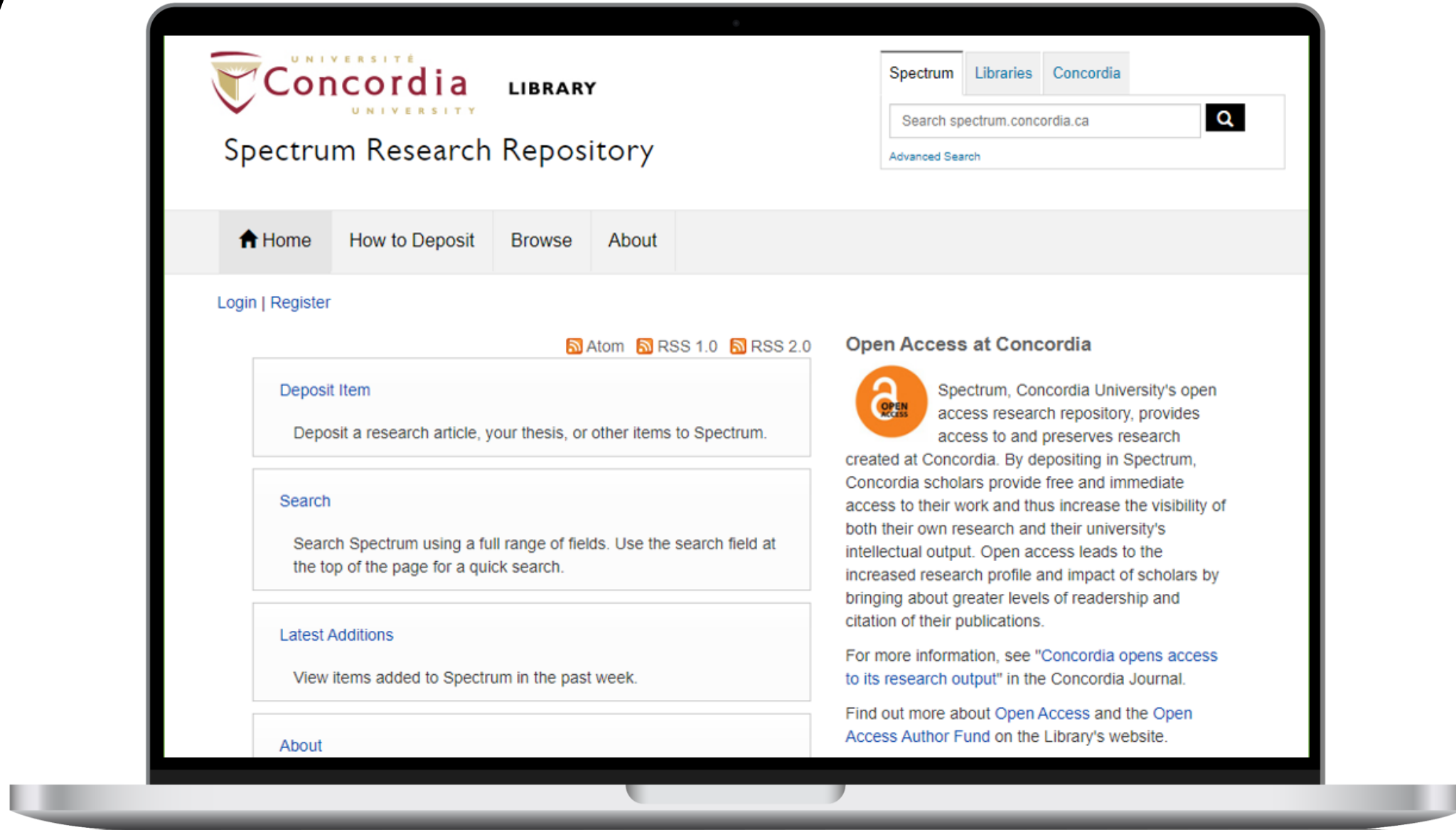
- To request a scan of a chapter, use this button:

**Chapter scan / Put on Course Reserve**

Other collections you have access to



# Spectrum Research Repository





ACCESSING CONCORDIA'S RESOURCES THROUGH  
**GOOGLE SCHOLAR**

# Journal article pro searching tips

- There are **two ways to search** for journal articles:
  - By searching the **article title**
  - By searching for the **journal title**, along with knowledge of the volume and issue
- **To search an article title**, can use (for example):
  - Sofia
  - Google Scholar
- **To search a journal title** (usually when online access is not obvious):
  - Sofia best
  - *Alternatively you might want to search for the publisher's webpage, in case the journal is open access.*

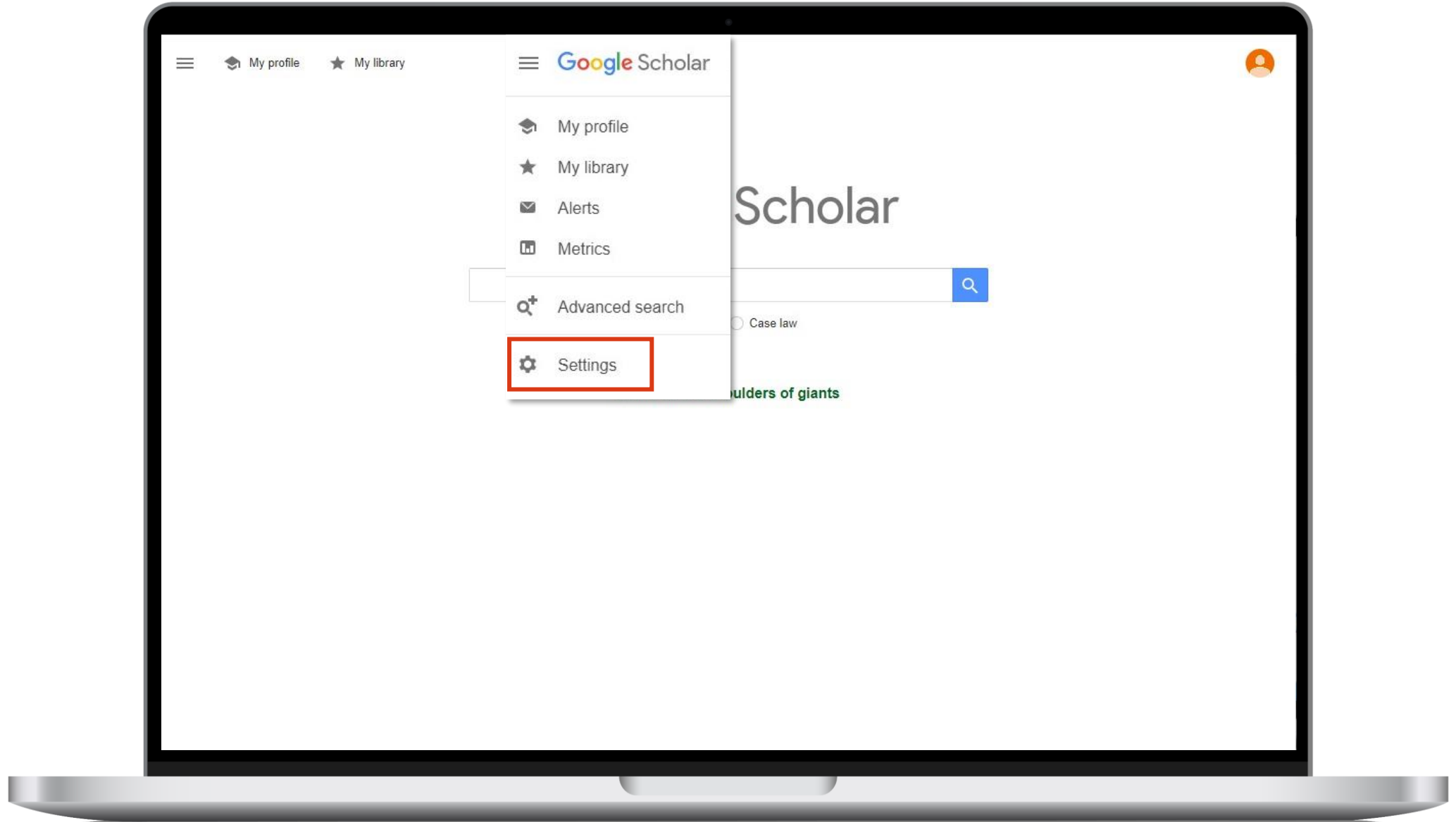
# YOUR TURN

Using Google Scholar, try locating the following articles:

1. McArthur, D., Lewis, M., & Bishary, M. (2005). The roles of artificial intelligence in education: current progress and future prospects. *Journal of Educational Technology*, 1(4), 42–80.
2. Slater, J. (2023). Just judge: the jury on trial. *American Philosophical Quarterly*, 60(2), 169–186.

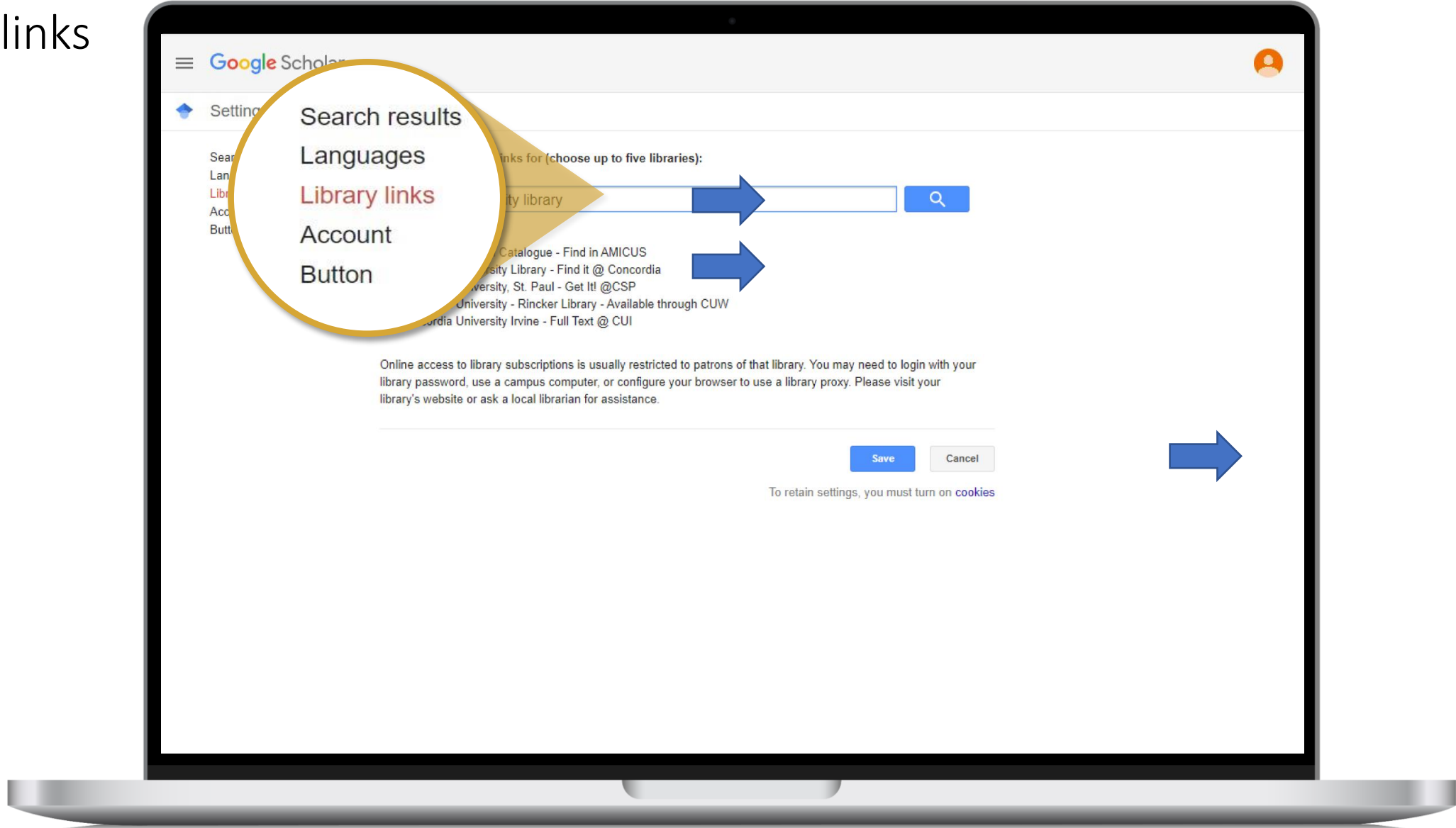
# Google Scholar

## Settings



# Google Scholar

library links



ACCESSING RESOURCES  
**BEYOND CONCORDIA**

# How to efficiently access material beyond Concordia?

- Network loans from other BCI institutions
- Your Concordia ID card gives you in-person access to other Quebec university collections
- BCI card gives you in-person access to university collections outside Quebec
- Interlibrary Loans (ILL)

# More about ILL

## How to access the service

- Via Sofia
- From search results, expand search to “Libraries Worldwide”

The screenshot displays the Sofia search interface. At the top, the Sofia logo and Concordia University logo are visible. The search bar contains the text "designing the earth bourdon". To the right of the search bar is a "Sign in" link. Below the search bar, there are links for "Advanced Search" and "Resources". On the right side of this bar, there are links for "Search history" and "Saved Items (0)".

The main search results area shows "Libraries Worldwide" as the selected filter. Below this, there are options to "Retain Filters" (checked) or "Clear Filters", and a notification that "111 results in Libraries Worldwide". A "Save search" button is also present.

The search results are sorted by "Best Match". On the left side, there is a "Search Results Display" section and a "Library" section. The "Library" section lists several options, with "Libraries Worldwide" checked. Other options include "Bibliothèques universitaires du Québec", "Concordia University Library", "Webster Library", "Vanier Library", "Visual Collections Repository (VCR)", and "Special Collections".

The main search results area displays a book titled "Designing the Earth: The Human Impression on the Earth's Surface" by David Bourdon. The book is a "Print Book" from 1995, published by H.N. Abrams in 1995. The summary states: "Moving across space and time, this fascinating volume explores the world, this fascinating volume explores the world, this fascinating volume explores the world transformed by human effort. In discerning textures and patterns, the author reveals the many ways in which the earth has been shaped by human hands." The book is available at "Bibliothèques universitaires du Québec".

A callout box highlights the "Libraries Worldwide" filter in the "Library" section, showing it is checked. Other filters in the callout include "Bibliothèques universitaires du Québec" (unchecked).

At the bottom of the search results, there is a link for "Worldwide Editions and Formats" and a "View All (6)" link.



# More about ILL

## How to access the service

Then look for the button “Request via Interlibrary Loan”

Note that the “Chapter scan / Put on Course Reserve” button will also lead to this service

The screenshot shows the Concordia library website interface. At the top, the search bar contains the text "designing the earth bourdon". The page displays search results for "Designing the earth : the human impulse to shape nature" by David Bourdon. The book is a print book from 1995, published by H.N. Abrams. The summary states: "Moving across space and time, from prehistory to the present and around the world, this fascinating volume explores the many ways in which the earth has been transformed by human effort. In discerning text, more than 150". The "Request via Interlibrary Loan" button is highlighted with a red box in the "Access Options" section.

**Concordia** Sofia

designing the earth bourdon

Sign in

Advanced Search Resources

Search history Saved Items (0)

Back to Search Results

Result 1 of 111

1

**Designing the earth : the human impulse to shape nature**

Authors: [David Bourdon](#)

**Print Book** 1995  
New York : H.N. Abrams, 1995.

**Summary:** "Moving across space and time, from prehistory to the present and around the world, this fascinating volume explores the many ways in which the earth has been transformed by human effort. In discerning text, more than 150"

Show More

**More Author/Title Info:** by David [Bourdon](#).

**Physical Description:** 240 pages : illustrations, map ; 30 cm

**Contents:** Shelter: be it ever so humble -- Commerce: modifying the land to make a living -- Defense: from ramparts and moats to trenches and foxholes -- Tombs: dwellings for the dead -- Sacred places: mud-brick mountains, rock-

**Access Options**

Request from Libraries Worldwide

**Request via Interlibrary Loan**

# More about ILL

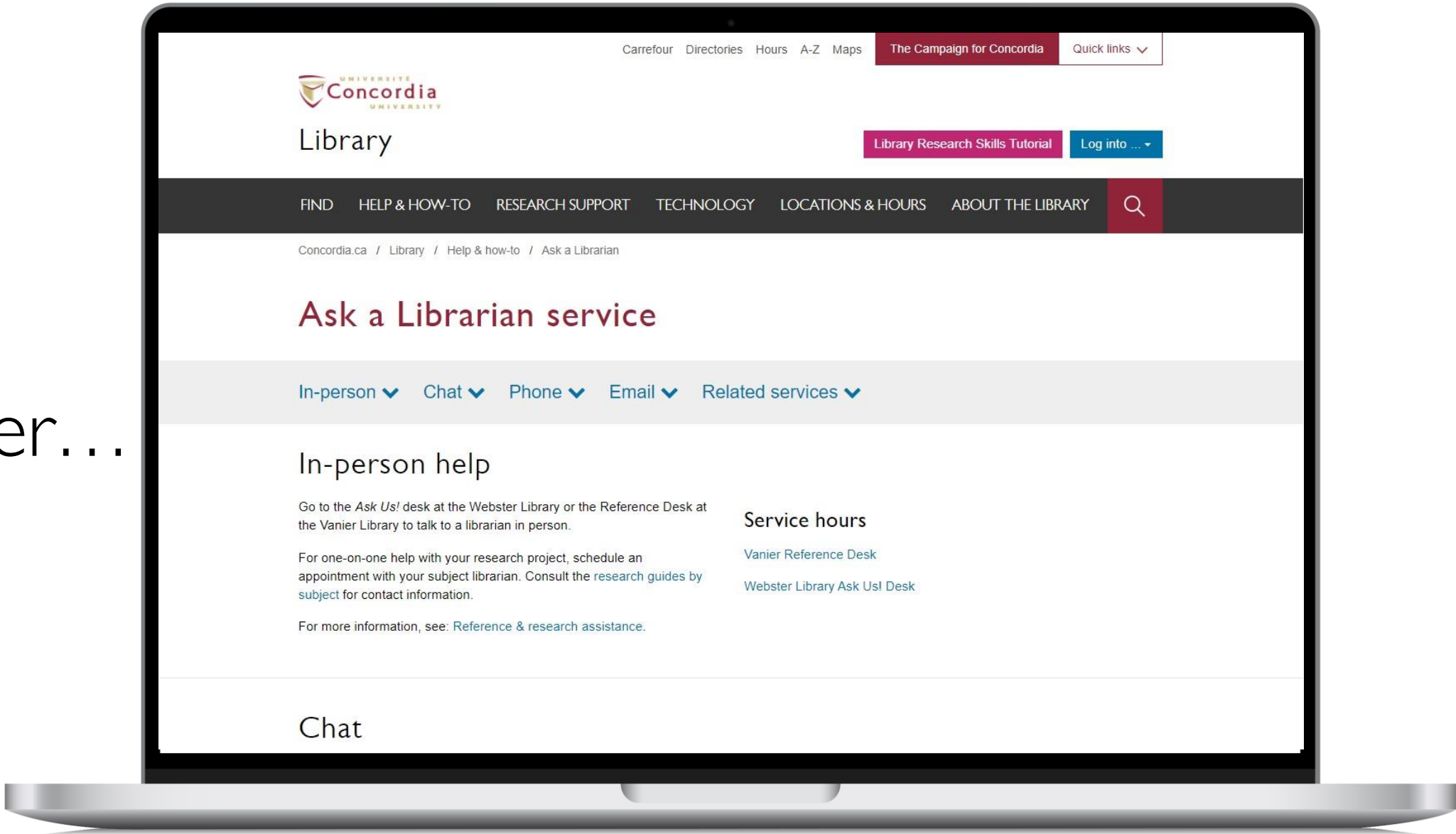
Parameters of service

- You will receive email notifications when your ILL request is available for pickup or download
- Physical items can be picked up at the Circulation/Loans desks at either Vanier or Webster Library
- ILL requests can be borrowed for 30 days, with up to 4 automatic renewals, or until item is recalled
- For more information see:

<https://library.concordia.ca/help/using/sofia/request.php>

<https://library.concordia.ca/find/interlibrary-loans/>

For help  
remember...



Library

[Library Research Skills Tutorial](#) [Log into ...](#)

[FIND](#) [HELP & HOW-TO](#) [RESEARCH SUPPORT](#) [TECHNOLOGY](#) [LOCATIONS & HOURS](#) [ABOUT THE LIBRARY](#) [Q](#)

[Concordia.ca](#) / [Library](#) / [Help & how-to](#) / [Ask a Librarian](#)

## Ask a Librarian service

[In-person](#) [Chat](#) [Phone](#) [Email](#) [Related services](#)

### In-person help

Go to the *Ask Us!* desk at the Webster Library or the Reference Desk at the Vanier Library to talk to a librarian in person.

For one-on-one help with your research project, schedule an appointment with your subject librarian. Consult the [research guides by subject](#) for contact information.

For more information, see: [Reference & research assistance](#).

### Service hours

[Vanier Reference Desk](#)  
[Webster Library Ask Us! Desk](#)

[Chat](#)

Any questions?

<https://www.concordia.ca/library/guides/gradproskills/gpll231.html>

