



How to Use Google Scholar

Tisch Library at Tufts University

1. What is Google Scholar

In November 2004, Google launched Google Scholar. Through Google Scholar, you can search specifically for scholarly literature, including journal articles, theses, books, preprints, abstracts, conference proceedings, and technical reports. [http://scholar.google.com/intl/en/scholar/about.html]

a. Advantage:

Google Scholar gets its content by crawling the web for scholarly materials (open access materials) as well as by getting information directly from publishers, including some of the resources to which the Tufts Libraries subscribe. Google Scholar, therefore, is useful for searching online journal collections such as *JSTOR*, *Project Muse*, *ScienceDirect*, and other restricted-access sources.

b. Disadvantage:

Google Scholar only searches a fraction of the published scholarly literature. Compare searches in *MLA*, *Art Abstracts*, *PsycINFO*, *MedLine*, *EconLit*, *ERIC*, *Compendex*, *INSPEC* and many more.

c. Caveat:

For the serious researcher, Google Scholar should be used along with other key library sources.

- Regularly updated databases. It can't be determined if materials included in Google Scholar are updated from publishers on a regular, known cycle yet; some data may be out of date.
- Databases with more specialized subject/discipline focus and powerful search capabilities. For example, only a database such as [Early English Books Online](#) will provide users with access to over 125,000 titles, comprising all known English language books from the beginning of printing to 1700, listed in *Pollard & Redgrave's Short-Title Catalogue* (1475-1640), *Wing's Short-Title Catalogue* (1641-1700) and *Thomason Tracts* (1640-1661).
- Print indexes (to publications, for which there is no online access).
- It is important to note that Google Scholar does not crawl the library's catalog, which means that it does not provide information on every book on the library's shelves.

2. Get started!

The screenshot shows the Google Scholar Preferences page. A box on the left contains instructions: 'Select Scholar preferences to-', '1) set your library links to Tufts', '2) Select a bibliography manager (to export links to RefWorks, EndNote, etc.)', and 'Save your preferences.'. Red circles and arrows highlight key elements: 'tufts' in the Library Links field, 'Find Library', 'Show links to import citations into RefWorks', and 'Save Preferences'.

Annotations on the screenshot include:

- Red box around 'Advanced Scholar Search', 'Scholar Preferences', and 'Scholar Help' links.
- Red circle around 'tufts' in the Library Links field, with the instruction '1. Enter "tufts" here.'
- Red circle around 'Find Library' button, with the instruction '2. Click.'
- Red circle around 'Show links to import citations into RefWorks', with the instruction '1.'
- Red circle around 'Save Preferences' button, with the instruction '2.'

3. General searching

- Use ~ for synonyms or related words. ~**psychoanalysis** searches for *psychoanalysis*, *psychoanalytic*, etc.
- Use **quotation marks** " " when searching for exact phrases.

Sample question: *using psychoanalysis as a method in studying art history*

"art history" ~psychoanalysis [Advanced Scholar Search](#)
[Scholar Preferences](#)
[Scholar Help](#)

Sample research question: *floating world of Edo Japan and its influence on Anime and Manga*
 NOTE: Use **OR (in upper case)** to include multiple words or phrases; here we are asking to search either or both "manga" and "anime".

Google Scholar [Advanced Scholar Search](#)
[Scholar Preferences](#)
[Scholar Help](#)

Scholar All articles [Recent articles](#) Results 1 - 10 of about 32 for manga OR anime "woodblock print".

[Hokusai and the Comic Tradition in Japanese Painting - Get This Item at Tufts](#)
 TR Bowie - *College Art Journal*, 1960 - JSTOR
 ... (Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.) may be seen in **Manga I** (Fig. ... **Woodblock print** from an illustrated life of Buddha, Shaka Suson Go-ichi-Dai-ki dzue ...
[Web Search - Import into RefWorks](#)

[book] [Anime: Experiencing Contemporary Japanese Animation - group of 2 »](#)
 SJ Napier, SJ Napler - 2001 - [books.google.com](#)
 ... such Japanese traditional arts as Kabuki and the **woodblock print** (originally popular ... in its use of characters or ideograms, and **anime** and **manga** fit easily ...
[Cited by 25 - Related Articles - Web Search - Import into RefWorks - Look for This at Tufts - Library Search](#)

4. Specific searching

Search by author

Enter the author's name in quotations: "D Knuth". To increase the number of results, **use initials** rather than the full first name. If you find too many results, use the "author:" operator to search for specific authors. For example, try [\[author: Knuth\]](#), [\[author:"d knuth"\]](#), or [\[author:"donald e knuth"\]](#).

Search by title

Put the paper's title in quotations: "A History of the China Sea." Google Scholar will automatically find the paper as well as other papers which mention it.

Search for papers in specific publications

Type either the complete name or a recognized abbreviation e.g, *JAMA*.

Google Scholar **Advanced Scholar Search**

Find articles with all of the words
 with the exact phrase
 with at least one of the words
 without the words
 where my words occur

Author Return articles written by
 Publication Return articles published in
 Date Return articles published between
 Subject Areas Return articles in all subject areas.
 Return only articles in the following subject areas:
 Biology, Life Sciences, and Environmental Science
 Business, Administration, Finance, and Economics
 Chemistry and Materials Science

anywhere in the article
 anywhere in the article
 in the title of the article
 e.g., "PJ Hayes" or McCarthy
 e.g., *J Biol Chem* or *Nature*
 -
 e.g., 1996

5. Search results

Ranking

Google Scholar aims to sort articles the way researchers do, weighing the full text of each article, the author, the publication in which the article appears, and how often the piece has been cited in other scholarly literature. The most relevant results will always appear on the first page.

Google Scholar BETA

"art history" ~psychoanalysis Search [Advanced Scholar Search](#) [Scholar Preferences](#) [Scholar Help](#)

Scholar All articles **Recent articles** Results 1 - 10 of about 3,180 for "art history" ~psychoanalysis (0.06 seconds)

[book] Leonardo, **Psychoanalysis & Art History: A Critical Study of Psychobiographical Approaches to ..**
BI Collins - 1997 - Northwestern University Press
[Cited by 13](#) - [Related Articles](#) - [Web Search](#) - [Import into RefWorks](#) - [Look for This at Tufts](#) - [Library Search](#)

Semiotics and Art History - [Get This Item at Tufts](#)
M Bal, N Bryson - The Art Bulletin, 1991 - JSTOR
... a semiotic view of **psychoanalysis**, demonstrating a variety of ways that **psychoanalysis** is bound up with **semiotics** and can be useful for **art history**, and then ...
[Cited by 41](#) - [Related Articles](#) - [Web Search](#) - [Import into RefWorks](#)

Recent Articles – Sorts your results so that newer research appears more quickly, considering factors like the prominence of the author's and journal's previous papers, full text of each article and how often it has been cited.

Look for this at Tufts – Searches the Tufts Catalog for books

Library Search – Searches WorldCat.org to see if any libraries own the item.

Get this item at Tufts - Full text link to the article

Cited By – Identifies other works (only those that are indexed in Google Scholar) that have cited this article. (Compare citation searching in *Web of Science* and *Scopus*.)

Related Articles – Finds other papers that are similar to articles in this group.

Web Search – Searches for information about this article on Google.

Import into RefWorks – Allows you to save citations to your RefWorks account.