



Information resources for PhD

Search strategy

4

SEARCH STRATEGY

Identify the search terms

Identify and define the information need



Construct the search

Analyse the relevance and range of the results

Identify and define the information you need

Specify the topic in one or more clear, concise sentences.

Include criteria of place, time, gender, age, etc.

- ✓ Checking whether the search result needs to be a specific data item or what has already been written about a topic, exhaustively or partially
- ✓ Identifying the key concept
- ✓ Reframing your idea into one or more questions



Identify the keywords

Success depends largely on choosing appropriate **search terms**



- Use **meaningful** terms that represent important concepts
- **Forget about prepositions, conjunctions, articles, pronouns, adjectives or adverbs**
- Look for **synonyms** and **related terms**
- Equivalents in English and other major languages

Example

Focus on the topic described in the paragraph below and identify the key concepts. These will be the search terms, to be used to find information on the Search Tool, database, etc.

Analyse and describe **public expenditure policies** in Spain, **economic impact** and the main **economic reforms**

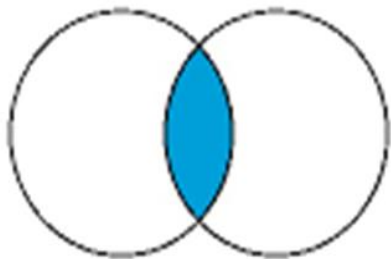
The highlighted terms will be the keywords but keep in mind that we want information on the present day so you will have to filter the results by date

Now think of alternative forms of these keywords: synonyms and equivalents in other languages, words that are more specific or more general, to use in your search:

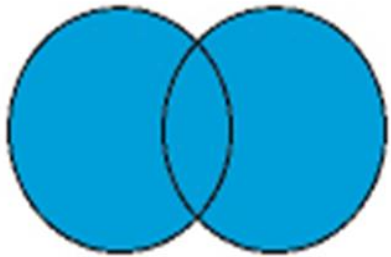
Concept 1	Concept 2	Concept 3
Budget policies	Economic effects	Economic measures

Boolean operators

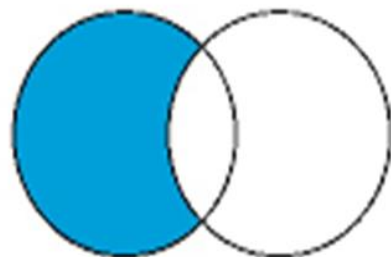
Boolean operators are used to search for information. They combine the search terms to refine the search and return exactly what you need.



AND +



OR |



NOT -

- **AND (i, y, &):** returns documents that contain both terms.
- **OR (+, O):** returns documents that contain any one of the terms.
- **NOT (- , AND NOT):** returns documents that contain one term, but excludes all those that contain the other one.

Example

Our search topic is **Budgeting and public expenditure policies in Spain**

Concept 1	Concept 2	Concept 3
Budget policies	Economic effects	Economic measures

We combine synonyms with OR and different terms with AND. This gives:

(budget policies OR public expenditure policies) AND
(economic impact OR economic reform) AND (Spain)

Other operators: truncation

Use truncations and wildcards: signs that let you search by the word's root or replace letters in it.

The keywords can have suffixes and retrieving all these variants can help in finding the documents we want

Truncation retrieves the term exactly as written plus the term with its suffixes

- The most common are: * ! ? \$ #
- **Example:**
- **econ*** (retrieves all documents that contain the terms: **economia**, **econòmic**, **economies**, **economy** etc.)

Check how relevant and comprehensive your results are

Relevant

Do the results fit your information needs? Are they useful for your project?

Comprehensive

Have you retrieved all the results you need?

If not, you may need to tweak your strategy

Tips on tweaking the search strategy

If you get too many results

- Add more major concepts and combine them with AND
- Remove any truncations
- Use descriptors
- Search in narrower fields (for example, the title or the keywords)

If you get too few results

- Remove the less important concepts
- Add synonyms and combine them with OR
- Use truncations
- Widen the search to more general fields (for example, abstract) or to all the fields

Information sources are the objects or subjects that generate, contain, provide or transfer information

✓ **Primary sources** give direct access to information. Examples: books, journals, dictionaries, encyclopaedias, etc.

✓ **Secondary sources** do not provide new information but give access to the primary sources. Examples: catalogues, databases, thematic portals, etc.



Search fields and search types

Search fields are the parts of the document records in which we look for the terms we have chosen. The commonest search fields are *free text, title, author, keywords, topic, etc.* Most information sources offer two options: **basic search and advanced search.**

✓ A **basic search**, in general, only lets us search in a single field in the entry: by author, by title, etc.

✓ An advanced search lets us combine various search fields, for example title and author, or title and topic, using the operators that we learned about in Module 2.1. This type of search yields more precise results.

The screenshot shows the search interface of the 'dipòsit digital de documents de la UAB'. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Cerca', 'Llura', 'Ajuda', 'Personalitza', and 'Administració'. Below this, a search bar is visible with a dropdown menu set to 'qualsevol camp'. A green 'Cerca' button is to the right of the search bar. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Limitar per col·lecció:' with three checked options: 'Articles (56,822)', 'Contribucions a jornades i congressos (2,164)', and 'Publicacions periòdiques (2,164)'. A dropdown menu is open, showing search fields: 'qualsevol camp', 'títol', 'autor', 'resum', 'matèria', 'text complet', and 'any'. To the right of the search bar, there are links for 'Consells de cerca' and 'Cerca avançada'.

Know the most important sources of information

Below is a suggestion for locating books, articles and other academic sources.

Basic sources	Specialist sources
✓ UAB Libraries Search Tool	✓ Databases
✓ University Union Catalogue of Catalonia (CCUC)	✓ Subject guides
	✓ Specialist search engines, repositories, etc.

The image shows a screenshot of the UAB (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) library website. At the top, the UAB logo and name are visible, along with navigation links: "Què oferim", "Els nostres fons", "Estudia i investiga", and "Coneix les biblioteques". The main heading is "Cercador" (Search), with the subtext "El Servei de Biblioteques etorna una nova eina de cerca" (The Library Service returns a new search tool). Below this, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a "Cerca" button. To the left of the search bar, there is a section titled "Actualitat" (News) with a small image and text about an exhibition: "Exposició 'Esperança en el disseny'" (Exhibition 'Hope in design'). To the right of the search bar, there is a section titled "Accés" (Access) with a list of links: "Hemera", "Biblioteques", "Espais d'estudi i treball", "Accés des de fora UAB", "Recursos", "Prestatge", "Tesis", "Clàssics i Bibliografia", "Cursos de Formació", "Mendeley", and "Recerca". Below the search bar, there are several colored buttons for different services: "Revistes i llibres digitals", "Bases de dades", "Dipòsit Digital de Documents (DID)", "Prestatge Consorciat", "(PUC)", "Bibliografia de curs", and "Més informació".

Search Tool: www.uab.cat/biblioteques

Cercador

El Servei de Biblioteques estrena una nova eina de cerca



Actualitat



Exposició "Esperança en el desànim"

La Biblioteca de Comunicació i Hemeroteca General acull una exposició de fotografies d'Afganistan. [Llegir més](#)

Cercador El meu compte

Cerca

Revistes i llibres digitals
Bases de dades

Dipòsit Digital de Documents (DDD)
Préstec Consorciat

(PUC)
Bibliografia de curs
Més informació

Accés

- Horaris
- Biblioteques
- Espais d'estudi i treball
- Accés des de fora UAB

Recursos

- Préstec
- Tesis
- Citacions i bibliografia
- Cursos de formació
- Mendeley

Recerca

Search Tool

A tool that lets you search in all the resources of the UAB Libraries.

The search is performed simultaneously in

- the UAB Libraries catalogue
- the UAB digital library (digital resources provided by the UAB Libraries)
- the digital repositories DDD and Traces

It lets us

- restrict results according to various criteria
- access the full text (if it is available)
- reserve and borrow documents in "My account"
- save lists of documents, send references and export them to Mendeley, the bibliographic reference manager


Search Results

On performing a search it shows us all documents, whether in print or digital format, and you can apply filters to limit the results.

- To see only results from the UAB Libraries: **filter by UAB Catalogue**
- To see only electronic documents: **filter by digital library**
- To see only full-text electronic resources: **filter by full text**
- To see electronic resources published in high-impact journals: **filter by peer review**
- Filter by **other factors** , such as library, collection, format, language, topic, geographical location, years of publication, etc.

Results are in order of importance (the most frequently accessed first)

Basic search

crecimiento economico 

Cerca avançada

Cercar **Catàleg**

Resultats 1 - 25 de 425 per a crecimiento economico

Ordenat per Relevància | Data | Títol | Author

Limitar per:

- Dipòsit Digital UAB (169)
- Biblioteca
 - Bib. Universitària Sabadell (44)
 - Centre de Documentació Europea (13)
 - Ciències Socials (151)
 - Comunicació - Dipòsits (16) [més >](#)
- Només a catàleg
 - Títol (194)
 - Matèria (15)
- Curs
- Professor
- Tipus de material
- Matèria
 - desenvolupament econòmic (107)
 - tesis i dissertacions electròniques (47)
 - espanya (19)
 - empreses (9)
 - planificació regional (8) [més >](#)
- Idioma

Filters or factors



Crecimiento económico / David N. Weil ; traducción: Esther Rabasco Espáriz ; revisión técnica: Luis Toharia Weil, David N.
 Llibre | 2006
Exemplars a C. Socials-Planta -2 (E2.340 Wei) i 2 més [veure tot](#)



Crecimiento económico / David N. Weil; Traducción: Esther Rabasco Espáriz; Revisión técnica: Luis Toharia Weil, David N., autor
 Llibre en línia | 2006

Crecimiento económico : problemas de todos / compilación de Peter M. Gutmann Gutmann, Peter M.
 Llibre | 1966
Exemplars a C. Socials- Dipòsit llibres (D E2.340 Gut) [veure tot](#)



Apuntes de crecimiento económico / Xavier Sala-i-Martin ; traducción de Elsa Vila Artadi Sala-i-Martin, Xavier, 1963-
 Llibre | 2000
Exemplars a C. Socials-Planta -2 (E2.340 Sal) i 10 més [veure tot](#)

Advanced search

Cerca avançada [Cerca bàsica](#)

(crecimiento económico)

Paraula clau

I Paraula clau

Afegir un operador booleà:

Any: a

Catàleg UAB

Tipus de material: Idioma:

Col·lecció:

Biblioteca:

Biblioteca Digital

Limitar dins la Biblioteca Digital

Available in Library Collection

Opcions d'ampliació de la Biblioteca Digital

Apply related words

Also search within the full text of the articles

Apply equivalent subjects

[Aturar la cerca](#)

How to find books and journals

In the Search Tool we will find **books and journals** in both print and electronic format.

ELECTRONIC

Direct access to the full text (if bought/subscribed to by the UAB)

PRINT

Number of copies/collections, availability and library where it is located

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://catalogue.uab.cat/ii/encore/pluu/C_Seconomia_Orighresult_U?lang=cat&site=def. The search bar contains the word "economia" and a play button icon. Below the search bar, there are navigation links: "Reservat d'espais", "Revistes-e i Llibres-e", "Bases de dades", "Bibliografia de curs", and "Noves Adquisicions". The search results are displayed under the heading "Resultats 1 - 25 de 467313 per a economia". The first result is "Economía: Research Starters Topic" with a logo and a brief description. Below it are three journal entries: "Economía : Journal of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association" (Revista | 2000 -), "Economía [Recurs electrònic] : Journal of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association" (Revista en línia | 2000 -), and "Economía : ABC" (Revista | 1999 -). Each entry includes a small icon, the title, and a link to view the library's holdings. The bottom of the page shows "Cerques relacionades:" with a loading indicator.

Finding e-journals and e-books



Buscar

Search



Publications

Browse By Discipline

Find resources available from the library's collection

Agriculture & Agribusiness (985)	Consumer Health (58)	Information Technology (583)	Political Science (527)
Anatomy & Physiology (217)	Dance (20)	Language & Linguistics (900)	Politics & Government (2478)
Anthropology (317)	Dentistry (244)	Law (1707)	Power & Energy (353)
Applied Sciences (400)	Diplomacy & International Relations (379)	Library & Information Science (511)	Psychology (1252)
Architecture (143)	Drama & Theater Arts (103)	Life Sciences (961)	Public Health (441)
Arts & Entertainment (248)	Earth & Atmospheric Sciences (762)	Literature & Writing (1443)	Religion & Philosophy (1242)
Astronomy & Astrophysics (115)	Economics (1363)	Marketing (279)	Science (607)
Biography (14)	Education (2003)	Mathematics (1112)	Social Sciences & Humanities (2479)
Biology (2058)	Engineering (1740)	Military History & Science (165)	Social Work (95)
Biotechnology (198)	Environmental Sciences (864)	Mining & Mineral Resources (90)	Sociology (994)
Botany (332)	Ethnic & Cultural Studies (1296)	Music (342)	Sports & Leisure (391)
Business & Management (4862)	Film (114)	Nursing & Allied Health (791)	Sports Medicine (40)
Chemistry (1538)	Forestry (131)	Nutrition & Dietetics (179)	Technology (2559)
Communication & Mass Media (1328)	Geography & Cartography (288)	Oceanography (257)	Veterinary Medicine (230)
Complementary & Alternative Medicine (154)	Geology (286)	Pharmacy & Pharmacology (572)	Visual Arts (400)
Computer Science (1133)	Health & Medicine (7494)	Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy (74)	Women's Studies & Feminism (141)
Construction & Building (222)	History (2012)	Physics (1021)	Zoology (576)

Finding e-journals and e-books

- ! Some [e-book](#) platforms subscribed to do not allow downloads

The screenshot displays a library search interface. At the top left, there is a search bar with the text 'economia' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there is a checkbox labeled 'Keep search limiters' which is checked. In the top right corner, the logo for 'Biblioteques UAB' is visible. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a right main area. The sidebar contains three sections: 'Refine Results', 'Current Search', and 'Limit your results'. The 'Current Search' section shows 'Find all my search terms: economia'. The 'Limit your results' section has a checkbox for 'Peer Reviewed Journals' which is unchecked. Below this is a 'Subject' section with a list of categories and their counts: economics (20), business (general) (17), economic history (16), management (12), agricultural economics (4), and social sciences & humanities (general) (4). The main area shows 'Search Results: 1 - 20 of 333'. It lists three results: 1. 'Economía' with ISSN: 0254-4415, 2304-4306. Economic History. It has a 'Full Text Access' button and two links: 'Academic Search Complete 2007 - present' and 'ProQuest Central 2010 - present'. 2. 'EconomíaA' with ISSN: 1517-7580, 2358-2820. Economics. It has a search box 'Search within Publication' and a 'Full Text Access' button with a link 'DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals 2013 - present'. 3. 'L'Economia' with 'RCS Periodici Spa.' and a 'Full Text Access' button with a link 'PressReader'. In the top right of the main area, there are links for 'Relevance', 'Page Options', and 'Share'.

Buscar

economia

Search

Keep search limiters

Refine Results

Current Search

Find all my search terms:

economia

Limit your results

Peer Reviewed Journals

Subject

- economics (20)
- business (general) (17)
- economic history (16)
- management (12)
- agricultural economics (4)
- social sciences & humanities (general) (4)

Search Results: 1 - 20 of 333

Relevance ▾ Page Options ▾ Share ▾

- Economía**
ISSN: 0254-4415, 2304-4306. Economic History.
 Full Text Access
[Academic Search Complete 2007 - present](#)
[ProQuest Central 2010 - present](#)
- EconomíaA**
ISSN: 1517-7580, 2358-2820. Economics.
Search within Publication
 Full Text Access
[DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals 2013 - present](#)
- L'Economia**
RCS Periodici Spa.
 Full Text Access
[PressReader](#)

Finding articles

In the Search Tool we can find journal articles (DDD, databases like Dialnet, Elsevier, Wiley, Proquest, or WOS)

- **To search for a particular article** we search by **article title**. If we don't find it, we can search by the **title of the journal** it is published in
- **If we are looking for articles within a particular topic**, we search by topic (for example, Spanish economy) and we restrict the search to *full text* or *peer reviewed*, or by format: article/book chapter, reviews, etc.

Where to look? Access to e-resources from outside the UAB



UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



Què oferim | Els nostres fons | Estudia i investiga | Coneix les biblioteques

Libres de l'editorial Wiley a prova durant tot l'any

Els més consultats els adquirirem per sempre!!!
En pdf, usuaris il·limitats i des de qualsevol dispositiu!



Actualitat



Els Serveis Cientificotècnics en versió exposició

La Biblioteca de Ciència i Tecnologia apropa, fins a finals d'abril, els Serveis Cientificotècnics a tota la comunitat universitària [Llegir més](#)

A screenshot of the 'Cercador' search interface. It features a search bar with the text 'Cerca per tema, autor, revista, llibre, etc.' and a 'Cerca' button. Below the search bar are three columns of links: 'Revistes i llibres digitals', 'Bases de dades', 'Dipòsit Digital de Documents (DDD)', 'Préstec Consorciat (PUC)', 'Bibliografia de curs', 'Guia del Cercador', and 'Més informació'. A 'El meu compte' link with a user icon is in the top right corner.

Accés

- Horaris
- Biblioteques
- Espais d'estudi i treball
- [Accés des de fora UAB](#)

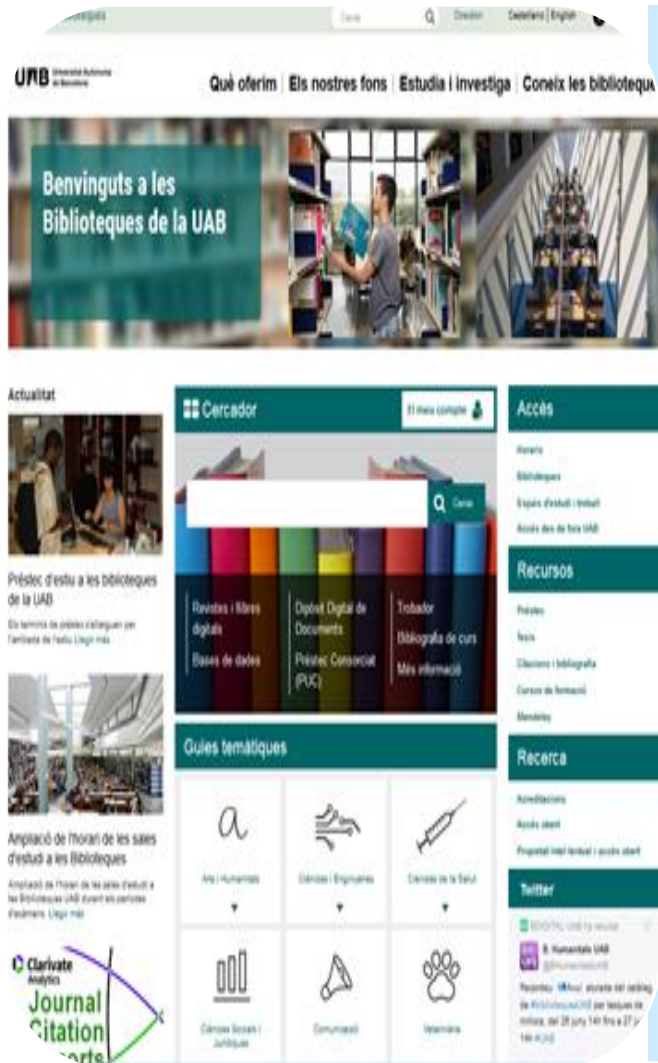
Recursos

- Préstec
- Tesis
- Citacions i bibliografia
- Cursos de formació
- Mendeley

Recerca

How to search on the internet

Not all information published on the internet is reliable



- **Search engines** search by **keywords** and show a list of automatically indexed web pages. Useful for finding documents and websites, they give access to **up-to-date information** and retrieve a large amount of information
- **Thematic portals: websites that offer a set of resources and services** around a specific topic, with information selected by experts in the field. Example: subject guides from the UAB Library Service

Subject guides

Benvinguts a les Biblioteques de la UAB

Actualitat

Prèstec d'estudi a les biblioteques de la UAB
Els terminis de préstec s'allarguen per l'arribada de l'estiu. Llegir més

Ampliació de l'horari de les sales d'estudi a les Biblioteques
Ampliació de l'horari de les sales d'estudi a les Biblioteques UAB durant els períodes d'exàmens. Llegir més

Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports

Cercador El meu compte

Accés
Horaris
Biblioteques
Espais d'estudi i treball
Accés des de fora UAB

Recursos
Prèstec
Tesis
Citacions i bibliografia
Cursos de formació
Mendeley

Recerca
Acreditacions
Accés obert
Propietat intel·lectual i accés obert

Twitter
BDIGITAL UAB ha retuitat B. Humanitats UAB @BHumanitatsUAB
Recordeu: Avui aturada del catà de #BibliotequesUAB per tasques millora, del 28 juny 14h fins a 21h #UAB

- The UAB Libraries offer subject guides with all the information sources on a particular subject.
- Available at: <http://www.uab.cat/biblioteques>

Internet search engines

- Databases of automatically indexed web pages
- Allow you to make queries based on one or more words that appear in the indexed documents
- Useful for finding documents and websites
- Give access to up-to-date information
- Retrieve a large amount of information



Danger of intoxication

Google Scholar: a good starting point that gives a general overview. Focuses on the world of research and academic study: specialising in academic journal articles, research projects, reports, theses, books, etc.

<https://scholar.google.es/>

Online press

The portal **El Quiosc** offers you the **online press and press databases** subscribed to by the UAB, plus other useful resources: media directories, news search engines, etc.

<http://www.bib.uab.es/premsa/>

- El Quiosc
- Bases de dades de premsa
- Directorio de diaris i revistes
- Notícies
- Recursos de premsa

Contacte

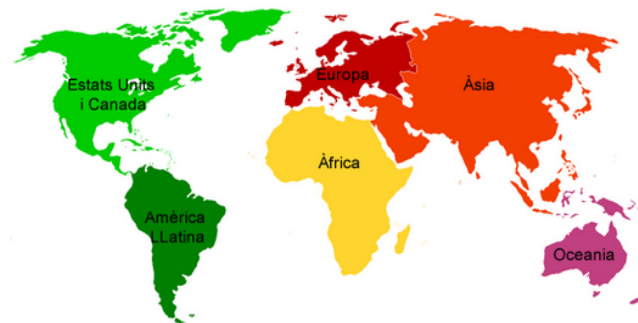
Cercar diaris i revistes per àrea geogràfica



Cercar diaris i revistes per títol

 [\[Cerca avançada\]](#)

També podeu consultar [+diaris i revistes al directori](#)



Diaris destacats a la UAB

- ABC
- Ara
- The Asahi Shimbun
- Cinco días
- Clarín
- Corriere della Sera
- The Guardian
- Le Monde
- El Mundo Deportivo
- El Mundo
- The New York Times
- El País
- El Periódico de Catalunya (cat)
- El Punt Avui
- La Reforma
- The Times of India
- The Times
- La Vanguardia
- The Wall Street Journal

Where can I find databases?

The image shows a screenshot of the UAB library website. At the top left, there is a logo consisting of three vertical bars of varying heights followed by the word "Cercador". To the right of this is a navigation link "El meu compte" with a user icon. Below the header is a search bar with the placeholder text "Cerca per tema, autor, revista, llibre, etc.." and a search button labeled "Cerca" with a magnifying glass icon. The main content area is divided into three columns of links: "Revistes i llibres digitals" and "Bases de dades" in the first column; "Dipòsit Digital de Documents (DDD)" and "Préstec Consorciat (PUC)" in the second column; and "Bibliografia de curs" and "Més informació" in the third column. At the bottom of the page, there is a dark teal bar with a grid icon and the text "Guies temàtiques".

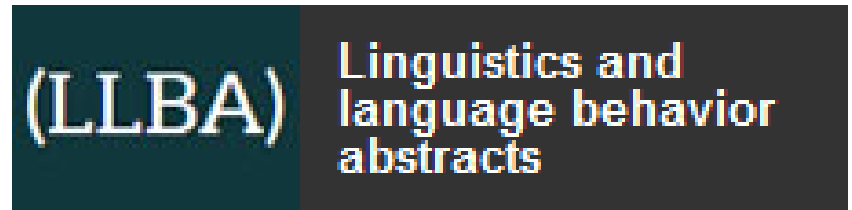
<http://www.uab.cat/biblioteques>

Databases (academic)

Databases are one of the main sources of information for finding scientific literature



And there are specialized databases like



MLA

MLA

Databases (academic)

Academic journal websites:



Publishing websites:



Database search strategy

You can interrogate the database using:

- **Fields:** TITLE, AUTHOR, SOURCE, etc.
- **Boolean operators:** AND, OR, NOT
- **Proximity operators:** WITH, ADJ, NEAR, “ ”
- To expand: **Truncations and wildcards:** * ! ? \$ #
- To limit: **Filters:** document type, language, year...
- **Thesaurus** of the databases



Dialnet y IndicesCSIC

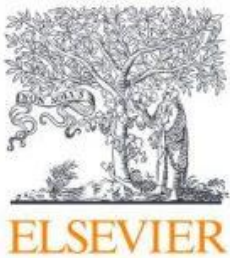
Dialnet

- **Dialnet**: Bibliographic portal that disseminates Hispanic scientific literatura
- **Type of documents**: journal articles, books, book chapters, conference proceedings, doctoral theses, etc.
- **Subject**: human, legal and social sciences
- **Others**: offers a bibliographic alert service and access to the full text of some documents
- Consult the user guide



- **ÍndiceCSIC**
- **Type of documents**: articles from Spanish scientific journals, papers, theses, compilations, reports and monographs
- **Subject**: multidisciplinary
- Consult the [user guide](#)

Scopus



- **Scopus:** Produced by Elsevier and is the world's largest database of peer-reviewed abstracts and citations, updated daily
- **Full text access** (subscribed UAB or open access resources)
- **Type of documents:** **references from journals, trade publications, books**, web resources, patents and author profiles
- **Subject:** multidisciplinary
- **Others:** information in 40 languages, non-Anglo-Saxon coverage (6,900 European magazines, more than 50% of the titles are European, South American and Asia-Pacific). It offers added value services: creation of bibliographic alerts, consultation of impact factor, H index, etc.
- **Consult the [user guide](#)**

Web of Science

- **Web of Science: WOS** portal of the company Clarivate Analytics. Includes high-quality bibliometric information
- **Full text access** (subscribed UAB or open access resources)
- **Types of documents:** magazine articles, conferences, books, book
- **Subject:** multidisciplinary
- **Others:** allows thematic searches and by cited work and / or author, consult bibliometric indicators (number of citations, H index, impact factor of journals, etc.)
- **Access to:** Science Citation Index (more than 8,000 publications), Social Sciences Citation Index (more than 3,000 publications), Arts & Humanities Citation Index (more than 1,600 journals), Conference Proceedings Citation Index (12,000 conferences per year) and Book Citation Index (Book citations and book chapters -printed and electronic-. Also in: Biosis Previews, Medline, Scielo Citation Index, Korean Journals Database and Russian Science Citation Index
- **Consult the [user guide](#)**

Web of Science

Contact us



[@bibliotequesUAB](https://twitter.com/bibliotequesUAB)



fb.com/bibliotequesUAB



[@biblioteques_UAB](https://www.instagram.com/biblioteques_UAB)



www.youtube.com/c/BibliotequesUAB_videos



pregunt@



Servei d'Informació de
les biblioteques - UAB



619681146



[Servicio de asesoramiento en línea](#)



UAB Library Service

[#bibliotequesUAB](#)

