

Find it Fast! Part 1 Essential Skills for Assignments and dissertations 1

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Aims and Objectives



Aims

- An overview of the methods and resources available for finding information for your assignments and dissertations
- Includes:
 - Planning a literature search
 - Applying your search to a number of resources: Primo, electronic books, databases, web
- Managing your references

Objectives

To find and manage high quality information for your assignments and dissertations



Steps to Finding Information Fast



PART 1

- Step 1: plan your search
- Step 2: Source information
- Step 3: Search the Primo
- Step 4: Use Primo to identify relevant databases
- Step 5: Manage your references

PART 2

- Step 6: Look beyond Primo = databases/web search engines
- Step 7: Manage your results with RefWorks
- Step 8: Be aware of copyright and plagiarism



Step 1: Plan your search



First things first...
take a pencil and paper –
and do some brainstorming



- Only takes a few minutes
- Saves time in the long run
- What information are you looking for?
- Analyse the topic...



Plan your search contd...



- Think about
 - Time
 - Topic break it down into ideas (concepts); keywords



- Words (spelling, alternative words, truncation)
- Linking words (Boolean logic and/or)
- Write them down in a table



Example topic







Discuss the effect of oil spills on the marine environment



"the effect of oil spills on the marine environment"



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Concepts	Alterna	tive keyv	vords
Idea 1	"oil spill?"		
Idea 2	sea?	ocean?	marine?
Idea 3	environment?		

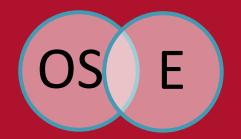


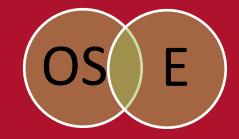
or

Boolean Searching



- Linking of words, phrases and concepts for searching in databases and the web
- AND, OR are main operators





oil spills OR environment

oil spills AND environment



Step 2: Source Information



Main places to look:

- Primo
- Ebrary + ScienceDirect (e-book collections)
- Database(s) (Web of Science in this workshop)
- Web search tools
- * Look up the search rules for the databases you plan to search



Step 3: Search Primo







Primo



- http://primo.abdn.ac.uk:1701/
- Tells you what we hold
- Searches all of our collections
- Cannot find chapters in books
- Can link out to electronic resources using the SFX service





Primo Search Rules



- Link ideas with Boolean operator AND
- Link alternative meanings with Boolean operator - OR
- Use a truncation symbol to catch singular and plural forms; word endings e.g. diet* finds diet, diets, dietary
- Use quotation marks for "phrase searching" e.g. "global warming"





Finding resources on Primo

- a book on a reading list...
- Materials on a topic...
- Journal articles...



Example Search

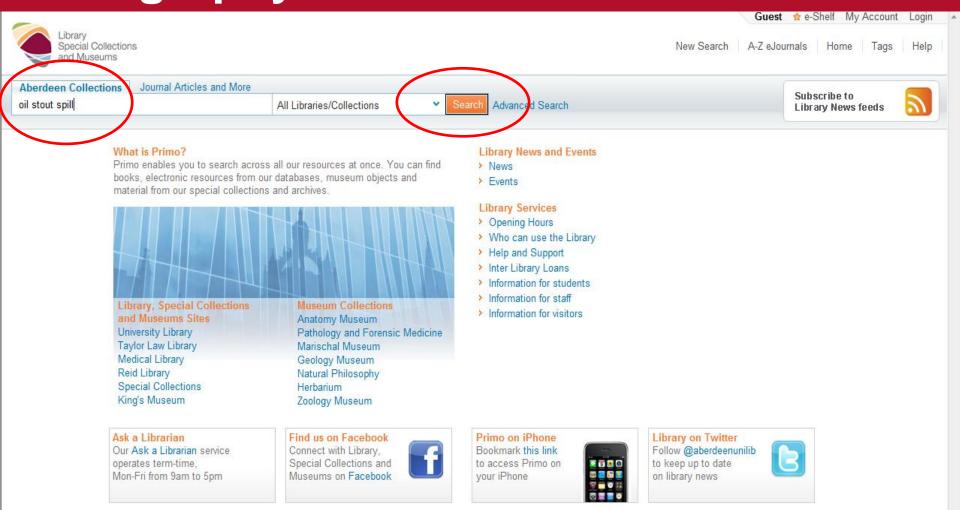


I want to find a book on my reading list...

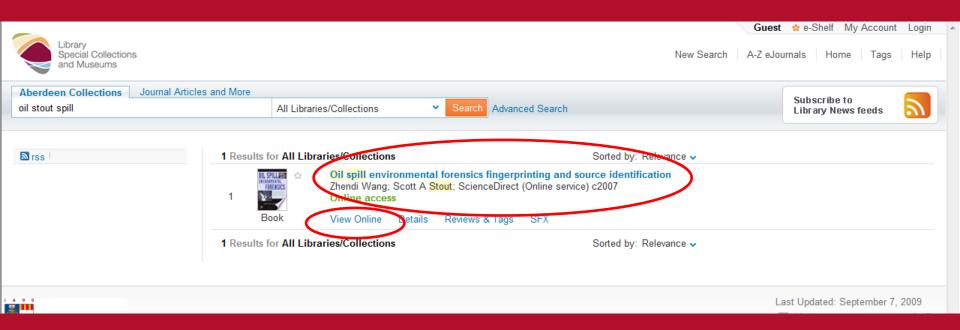
Wang, Z. & Stout, S.A. (2007). Oil spill environmental forensics: fingerprinting and source identification. Amsterdam: Elsevier/Academic Press



For titles you know use Simple Search... e.g. book on a reading list, reference in a bibliography



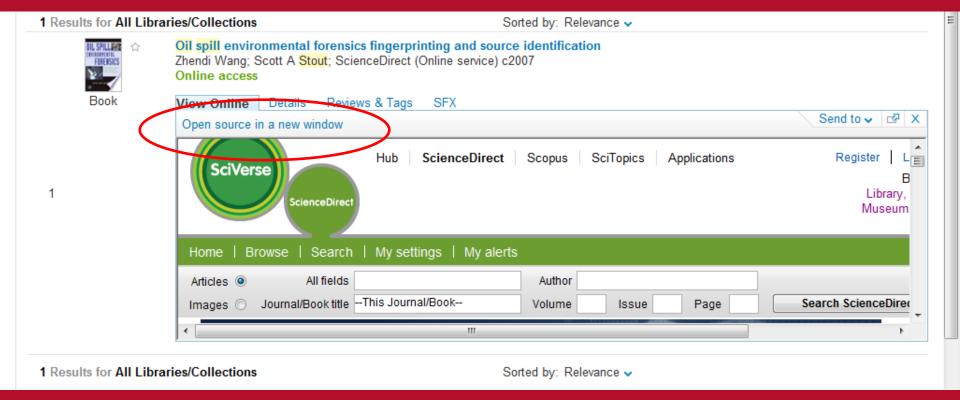
What can I find out?



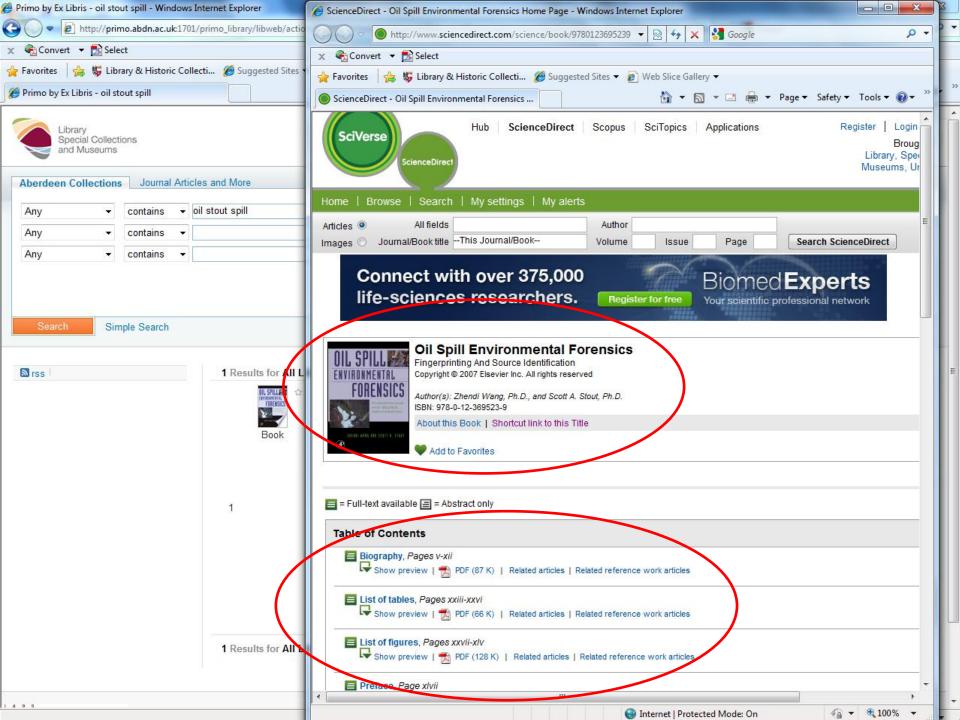
The Results page

- •tells you title, author, year of publication
- tells you whether a copy is available to borrow
- tells you which library holds the book or if it is an e-book
- open an e-book by clicking on View Online

Opening an e-book



- click on Open source in new window
- for ebrary books: taken to Shibboleth login screen
- for ScienceDirect books: taken directly to book
- login using your University username and password
- automatically opens the book in ebrary



Advanced Search

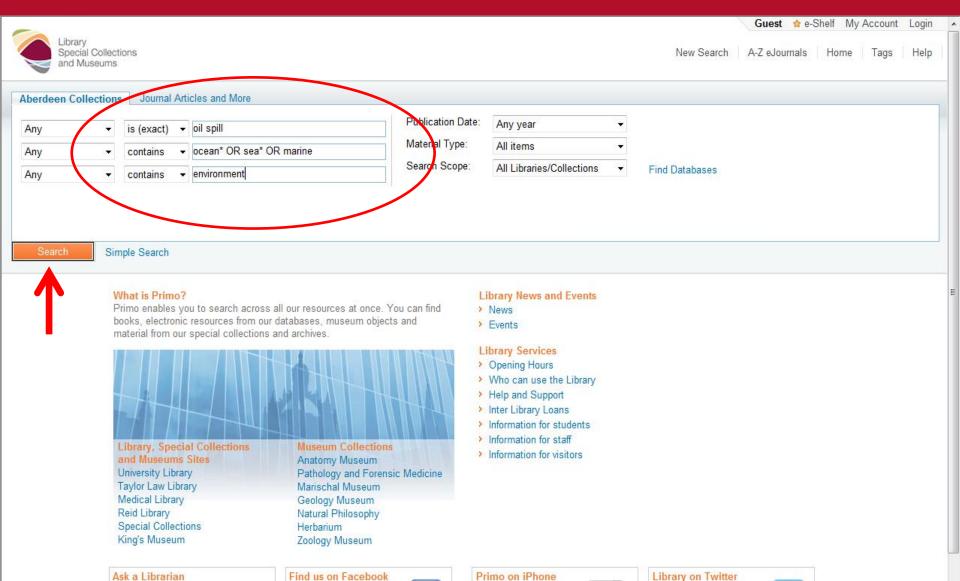


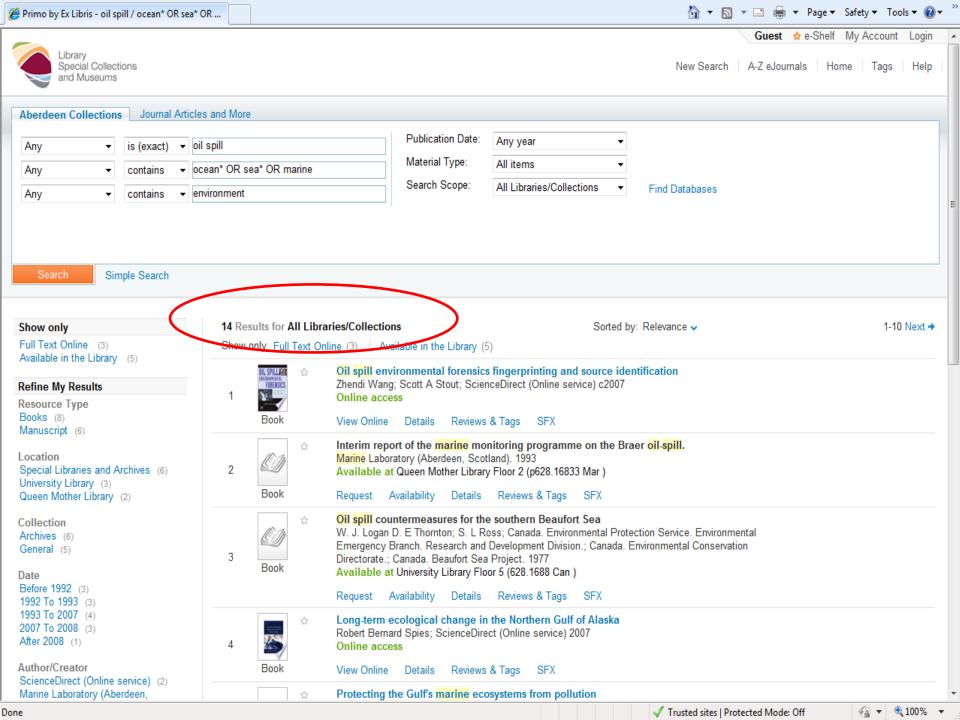
To look for books on a topic use Advanced Search

- flexible
- search across a combination of fields
- enter keywords in any order
- limit to certain resource types, e.g. books, journals
- follow the worksheet containing exercises in your workshop pack

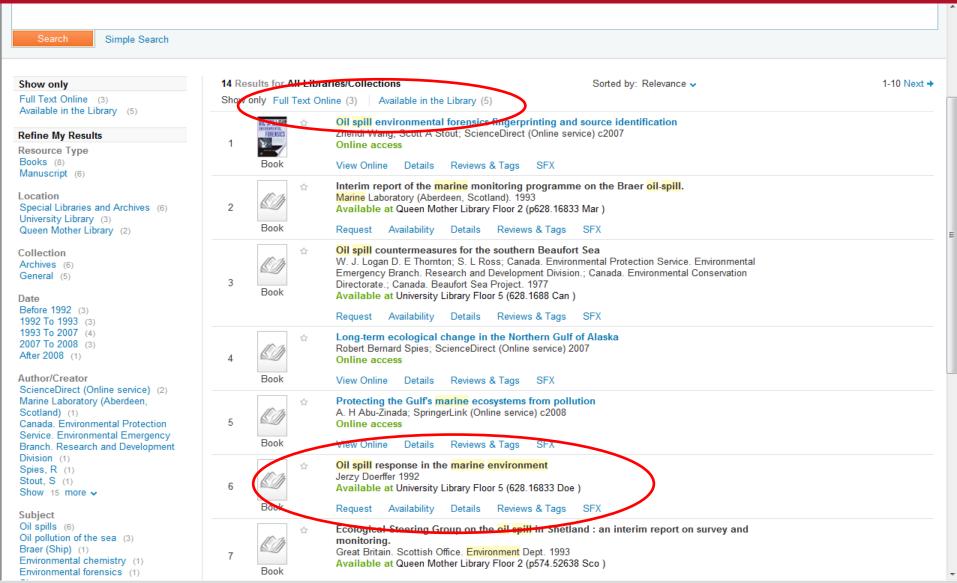


I want to look for books on a topic... Use Advanced Search





E-books = no library name Print books = library name and shelfmark



Step 4: Databases

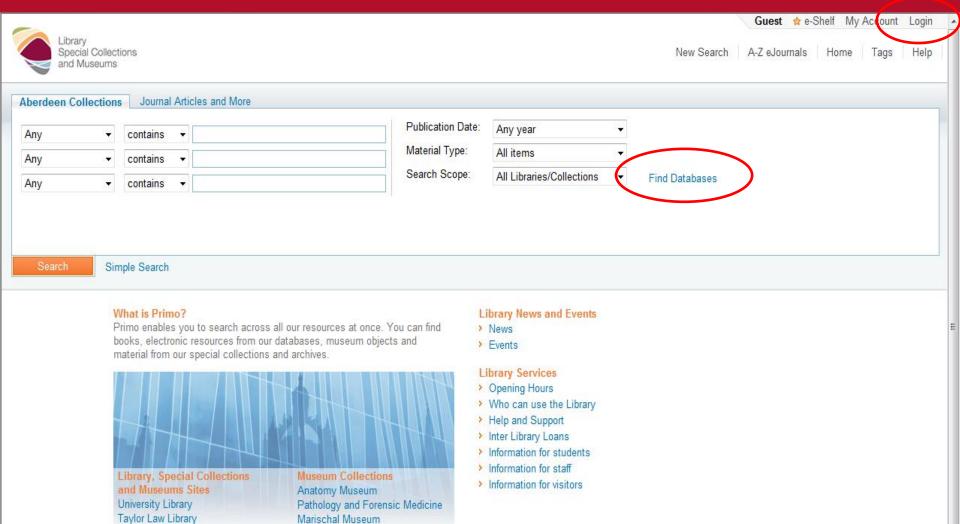


Use Primo to find the relevant databases to search...

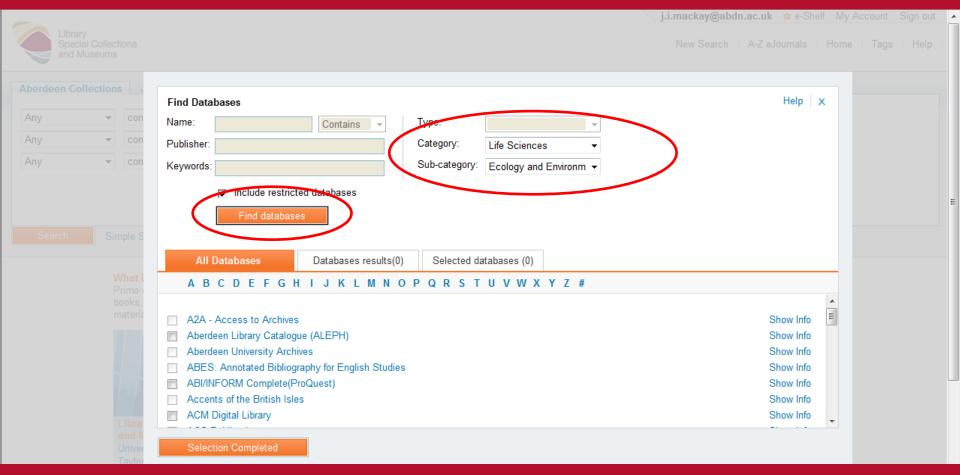




Primo: login using your university username and passwordClick on Find Databases link



Primo: Find Databases



- Select subject category
- Select subject sub-category
- Click on Find Databases button to read A-Z list of relevant databases

Step 5: RefWorks



Manage your References Register a RefWorks account





Options



- Keep records of useful sources as you search e.g. books, journal articles, websites
- Manual record keeping
 - Word documents
 - Excel spreadsheets
 - Index cards
- Reference management software
- RefWorks
 - Stores references found in searches
 - Creates in-text citations and bibliographies automatically



What is RefWorks?



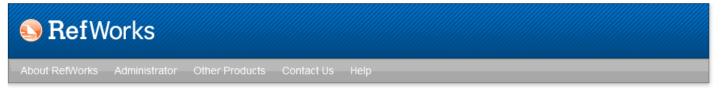
- Web-based access from any computer with Internet access
- 2 functions:
 - Electronic store or filing cabinet
 - Formats bibliographies and in-text citations
- Your own database of references
- No limit to number of references in your account

Why would I use it?

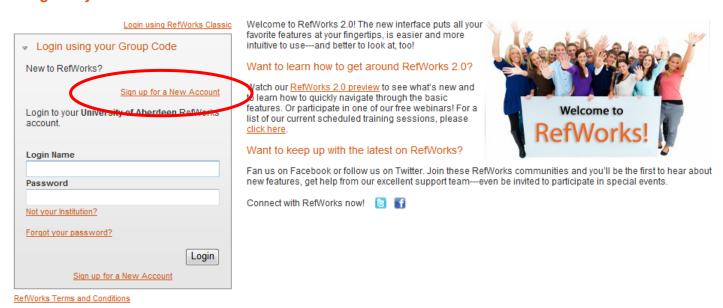
- Keeps all of your references/citations safely in 1 place
- Save time and effort
- Easy to create formatted bibliographies/in-text citations
- NOTE! RefWorks is NOT suitable for law students



Creating a RefWorks account



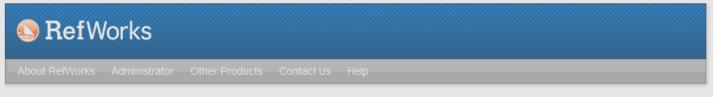
Login to your RefWorks Account



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- Go to www.refworks.com/refworks
- Click on Sign up for a New Account

Register your account



Login to your RefWorks Account

Get started now with four easy steps: 1. Enter your subscriber information. Your Name: Email Address: Login Name: Area of Focus: Select your focus area Type of User: Select your user type Password: Re-enter Password:
Your Name: Email Address: Login Name: Area of Focus: Select your focus area Type of User: Select your user type Password:
Your Name: Email Address: Login Name: Area of Focus: Select your focus area Type of User: Select your user type Password:
Email Address: Login Name: Area of Focus: Select your focus area Type of User: Select your user type Password:
Login Name: Area of Focus: Select your focus area Type of User: Select your user type Password:
Area of Focus: Select your focus area Type of User: Select your user type Password:
Type of User: Select your user type Password:
Password:
Re-enter Password
No-villar i dostroidi
Create a database by automatically importing data from online services or by typing references in manually.
 Create a paper in your word processor inserting reference ID numbers in the locations you want to cite references. Save and close the file.
 From RefWorks select Bibliography, Create and browse and locate the paper to format. Select the output style you want to use. Click Create Bibliography and save your formatted paper to your computer.
That's ityour paper is formatted correctly and the bibliography automatically created.
© Create Account

- complete the form
- click on Register button
- confirmation email will be sent from Refworks – save this – contains the Group Code for off-campus access

Off Campus Access Technical Issues



- When on campus you are on a network that is recognised by our suppliers. Additional software (utilities/plugins) often already installed so that software works
 - BUT install the ebrary Reader on your own PC
- When off campus you will have to:
 - set web proxy
 - allow pop-ups and/or cookies for certain sites, e.g. ebrary, RefWorks
 - Install extra plug-ins e.g. ebrary Reader, RefWorks Write'N'Cite
- See relevant library guides and computing fact sheets at www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support/guides
- Check www.abdn.ac.uk/library/collections/access-eresources



How can I find out more?



- Sign up for Find it Fast! workshops via www.abdn.ac.uk/library/learning-and-teaching/forstudents/information-skills-toolkit
- Subject support make an appointment to see the Information Consultant for your subject
- Information Skills wiki at http://aberdeenunilibskills.pbworks.com/



How can I find out more? contd...



- Library guides; podcast tours; vodcast demos via www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support
- Ask a Librarian instant messaging service on the library home page at www.abdn.ac.uk/library
- Library web pages at www.abdn.ac.uk/library
- Access problems IT Service Desk
 Tel. 01224 273636; email servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk



What's coming up...



Essential Skills Part 2

- Sign up for Part 2 to find out how to:
 - Search databases
 - How to Google better
 - Learn the basics of RefWorks
 - Be aware of copyright
 - Avoid plagiarism







- Do Section 1 Plan your search (pg.1 in workbook)
- Concentrate on tools/resources of interest to you (see workbook)
- Try things out for yourself
- Book on further courses
- Ask for help that's what we're here for
- Presentation available at http://aberdeenunilibskills.pbworks.com/ (see Section B)

