Arts and Humanities Citation Index

AHSearch indexes over 5,500 sources for articles, bibliographies, letters, reviews and more from the leading arts and humanities journals. Select articles from social science and science journals may also be included as they are relevant. With more than 3,000,000 records contained in the database, this is an excellent source for the arts and humanities

Searching

AHSearch is provided by OCLC/First Search, so you will notice the interface is very similar to that of WorldCat.
In addition to searching multiple terms and fields at one time, you can also limit your search to date, language or availability.

**Search Tips**

You can use Boolean operators to limit your search either in the Advanced Search tab using the drop down choices or by creating a search string in the Expert Search field.

- **AND**: all terms in the search appear in the results
- **OR**: at least one term in the search appears in the results
- **NOT**: excludes terms from the search
- **()**: groups words and phrases to show a relationship and the order in which you would like the search to be performed
- **W# (with)**: searches for terms in the order listed in an article with no more than the number searched between them
- **N# (near)**: searches for terms in any order listed in an article with no more than the number searched between them

Phrase searching is useful when searching for an exact phrase. If you are looking for articles about modern, you can put “modern art” in quotation marks to ensure the phrase is searched and not just the combination of the terms in any location in the article.

Wildcards allow you to search for multiple terms at one time. There is a variety offered by AHSearch.

- The plus sign (+) allows you to search for a word and its plural.
- The asterisk (*) represents any number of characters including no characters at all at the end of a word. This is often referred to as truncation. There must be at least three letters preceding the asterisk.
  
  *ex.* `environment*` matches:
  - environment
  - environments
  - environmental

- The pound sign (#) represents any single character.
  
  *ex.* `wom#n` matches:
  - woman
  - women

- The question mark (?) represents from zero to nine additional characters. You can include a specific number after the question mark to indicate the maximum number of characters to replace.
  
  *ex.* `colo?r` matches:
  - color
  - colour
  - colonizer
  
  *while* `colo?1r` matches:
  - color
  - colour

Take care when using wildcards as you may not want to use one with all searches.
If nesting is not used, AHSearch will process AND, OR or NOT in left to right order.

Search Results
Once you have run your search, you will be taken to a list of results.

If Briggs Library has a print subscription to the item you will see a green highlighted indicator. There are many items to which the library may have electronic access that do not show up in the database. Make sure to look at the full record, and click on the “Find It” link. To do so, click on the title of the article, you will be taken to a full record that will allow you to use the “Find It” button to determine if the item is available or if you need to request it through ILL.

Exporting Multiple Records to EndNote
First make sure you have your EndNote library open. To export records as a group, you need to mark the records on the results page, then click the “Export” icon at the top of the page.

1 EndNote filter information provided by St. Olaf College (http://www.stolaf.edu/library/instruction/endnote/PCInstructions.html)
You can choose to export the records you marked (or if you’ve changed your mind, you can export all of the records in the result list). Also mark the radio button next to “EndNote,” and click “Export.”

A dialog box will appear asking you what you would like to do with the file. Choose to open it.
Another dialog box will appear. You need to choose “Arts Humanities (OCLC)” from the list. To get there, you can type in “Ar,” which will take you to the filters that star with “Ar.” After locating the AHSearch filter, select it, and click the “Choose” button on the lower right.

The records will be downloaded into your EndNote library. You will see the “Imported Reference” group has records in it. Each time you import records, the previously downloaded records will be overwritten in this group, but they live in the “All References” group, so you are not losing any information. You can also confirm the proper number of records was downloaded.

**Exporting a Single Record to EndNote**

When exporting a single record to EndNote, click on the title link, which will take you to the full record. Click on the “Export” icon at the top right and follow the instructions listed above for importing multiple records.