6 essential things you need to know

FOR YOUR PHD/MSC IN MATHEMATICS

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Outline

1. How to search for library resources
2. Using databases
3. Accessing journal articles
4. Other types of information
5. Keeping up to date
6. Staying organized
1. How to search for Library resources

 ENTERPRISE AND SUMMON
Enterprise and Summon

The Library Catalogue and Discovery tool

http://www.reading.ac.uk/library/
Where to search

ENTERPRISE

• Books
• Journals
• Other materials
  • CD-ROMs
  • Audio visual

SUMMON

• Online* articles
• Online* book chapters

* Coverage is limited to the library’s electronic subscriptions
2. Using databases

WHY, WHAT & HOW?
Why use a database?

Bibliographic databases contain information about published literature, usually journal articles and conference proceedings, within a specific or range of subjects.

Using bibliographic databases can help you to gain a comprehensive overview of research in your area.
Which databases to use

MathSciNet

- The mathematical database
- Coverage:
  - 1940 - present
  - Over 2700 titles
  - Reviews and index-only items
Which databases to use

Web of Science Core Collection

• Contains the Science Citation Index

• Coverage:
  • 1970 - present
  • Over 8750 titles
  • Journal articles, reports, papers, discussions & more…
Which databases to use

**Scopus**

- Physical Sciences subject area
- Coverage:
  - 1823 – present
  - With cited references going back to 1970
  - Over 7200 titles
  - Journal articles, conference papers, reviews…
Which databases to use

And there are many more...

Take a look at the E-resources page on the Mathematics and statistics libguide:
http://libguides.reading.ac.uk/mathematics/e-resources
More info and help

Database guides

Effective database searching
3. Accessing journal articles

PRINT AND ELECTRONIC ACCESS
Option 1:
Direct links to articles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Journal or Book Details</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Search for article at Reading
Option 2: 
Search for the journal

**ENTERPRISE**
- Search by title
- Limit results to journals
- Print and electronic access

**E-JOURNALS FINDER**
- Search by title
- Browse by title or subject
- Electronic access
Otherwise…

Request an inter-library loan

Use another library
http://www.reading.ac.uk/library/beyond-uor/other-libraries/lib-using-other-libraries.aspx
4. Finding other types of information

THESES & CONFERENCE PAPERS
Theses

University of Reading theses
  • Search on Enterprise

British Library: EThOS
  • UK theses
  • ~85% are available as full text or to order

Proquest Dissertations & Theses
  • UK & Ireland, US
  • Some full text available
Conference papers

Web of Science Core Collection
• Conference Proceedings Citation

Zetoc - Conference Search
• http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk/
5. Keeping up to date with the latest research

EMAIL AND RSS ALERTS
Table of contents alerts

Receive the table of contents for newly published journal issues

Zetoc
• http://zetoc.jisc.ac.uk/

JournalTOCs
• http://www.journaltocs.hw.ac.uk/
Search alerts

• Receive alerts when new titles matching your search are added to databases

• Saves you time as you don’t need to re-run your searches

• Available on many databases
Citation alerts

• Receive alerts when articles you follow are cited by other articles

• Available on Web of Science and Scopus
6. Staying organized

REFERENCE MANAGEMENT
Why do I need references?

A complete and organised record of what you have read, and what you intend to read, will:

- Demonstrate the breadth of your reading
- Help you to work efficiently avoid duplication of effort
- Give you the opportunity to include your own notes and comments
- Make citing resources you use in your writing much easier
Managing your references

Reference management software
• Endnote Desktop & Web
  • Free to use on campus on IT PCs
  • Supported by the Library and IT

Some (free) alternatives:
• Mendeley
• Zotero

Neither are officially supported by the Library
Guides and Workshops

Managing references LibGuide
http://libguides.reading.ac.uk/c.php?g=513203&p=3506084

EndNote Guides

EndNote Desktop workshops
http://www.reading.ac.uk/library/finding-info/training/lib-training-endnote.aspx
Finally...

WHAT TO DO NEXT AND GETTING HELP
What to do next

• Devise a search strategy for your topic

• Familiarise yourself with MathSciNet, Web of Science and Zetoc/JournalTOCs

• Set up personal accounts
  • Web of Science & Zetoc/JournalTOCs

• Save some searches and set up alerts

• Take a look at reference management software
Getting help

Library guides
http://www.reading.ac.uk/library/finding-info/guides/lib-guides.aspx

Maths & Statistics subject pages
http://libguides.reading.ac.uk/mathematics

Literature review guides
http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/studyadvice/StudyResources/sta-essays.aspx
Getting help

The one URL to remember if nothing else
www.reading.ac.uk/library

Ask a question or make an appointment
i.chilvers@reading.ac.uk

Find me at the 2nd Floor Information Desk
Thursdays, 14.00 – 15.30