Using the Catalog
Basic Search

You can choose to search by Keyword, Author, Title, Subject, LC Call Number, ISBN/ISSN, Journal Title, or Resource Name using this drop-down menu.

This drop-down menu will allow you to select a specific location or collection within the library.

*Avoid using unnecessary words like pronouns, adjectives, and articles of speech when performing both basic and advanced keyword searches.

Advanced Search

This area allows you to search several words, or groups of words, at a time.

These drop-down menus allow for the selection of “And,” “Or,” and “And not.” These are types of Boolean Operators. The following pages will demonstrate how these operators can affect the number of returned results.

*Note that the more terms you use, the more specific your results will be.

Adding a symbol in a keyword search will retrieve results that contain any form of the term. The symbols used in our system are the * and ? seen in this example.

Environment* allows the system to search for environment, environments, and environmental.

Polic* allows the system to search for both policy and policies.

Wom?n allows the system to search for a variation of spellings within a word. This example will search for both women and woman.
Keywords Search

A standard keyword search with no Boolean Operators or Wildcards returned 107 results.

Results from a Keyword Search using the Boolean Operator “And”

Standard Keyword Search using the Boolean Operator “Or”
Click on the title of a book to learn more about it.

Subject Search

Clicking on the title of a book will give you more information. In this instance, finding more specific search results is our goal.

Clicking on one of these different subjects will provide more specific results.

For this example, “Frankenstein, Victor (Fictitious character) – Fiction. Has been selected. This will take you to a list with further category options.
Example Subject Search Results

Here are the results within the system when the topic “Frankenstein, Victor (Fictitious Character)” is selected from the list.

You’ll notice that there are several different books than were found in previous searches.

Exploring the “Subject” section can return results you have otherwise not found.

Other Ways to Explore Resources

On the same page you find alternate subjects to search, you will also find this list of subsections. Located at the bottom of the page, you have the option to access other titles within each category.