

Finding Articles: Scopus (for Sciences, Medicine and Social Sciences)

Scopus is a bibliographic database for science, medicine and social sciences. It covers 23,500 key journals from 5,000 publishers worldwide, going back as far as 1788. It also includes content from a number of other major databases including Medline (medicine) 1966-, Embase (medicine) 1970-, Compendex (engineering) 1970- and Geobase (geography) 1980-.

Connecting

1. To start, go to Databases A-Z (<https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php>) or SOLO (<http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>) and search for Scopus. Click **Online access** to connect to Scopus.

Finding articles

2. Look at the search terms that you came up with in the 'Building a search' exercise earlier and work out how you use the terms you identified in Scopus. In the screenshot below is an example on the topic of whether badgers spread TB in cattle, formatted as follows:

(Badger*) AND (Cow* OR bovine OR cattle) AND (TB OR tuberculosis)

The individual concepts are entered on individual rows.

The screenshot shows the Scopus search interface with three rows of search criteria. Each row has a 'Search within' dropdown set to 'All fields' and a 'Search documents' input field. The first row contains 'badger*', the second row contains 'cow* OR bovine OR cattle', and the third row contains 'TB OR tuberculosis'. The rows are connected by 'AND' operators. At the bottom, there are links for '+ Add search field', '+ Add date range', and 'Advanced document search >'. On the right side, there are 'Reset' and 'Search Q' buttons.

- What key concepts did you identify in the 'Building a search exercise'? In Scopus you will need to put each distinct concept on a single line in the

search form, e.g., in the example above the key concepts are badgers, tuberculosis and cattle.

- If you identified synonyms or alternatives words for your search terms enter these in the search form and add OR in between them, e.g., cow OR cattle OR bovine.
- To find alternative word endings use an asterisk, e.g., badger* finds badger and badgers (also badgered, badgering etc.).
- To search for an exact phrase use “quotation marks”. This is suitable for words which have a particular meaning when they are used together e.g., “cardiac arrest”, “human rights”, “South Africa”.

Working with your results

3. Look through your results:
 - a. Use the **Sort on** option (right hand side) to re-sort the list by **Cited by (highest)** (i.e. so that the most highly cited items appear first).
 - b. Try out the **Limit to** or **Exclude** options on the left to refine your search further.
4. Select some of the articles using the check boxes on the left and email them to yourself or use **Export** to send them to Endnote or RefWorks (if you use these reference management tools).

The screenshot shows a search results interface with several callout boxes:

- Limit to or exclude:** Points to the 'Refine results' sidebar on the left, which includes 'Limit to' and 'Exclude' buttons, and filters for 'Access type' (Open Access, Other) and 'Year' (2020).
- Export to Endnote, RefWorks etc.:** Points to the 'Export' button in the top navigation bar.
- Email, print etc.:** Points to the 'Email', 'Print', and other action icons in the top navigation bar.
- Sort options:** Points to the 'Sort on: Date (newest)' dropdown menu in the top right corner.
- Connect to full text:** Points to the 'Abstract' and 'Full text' links below the first search result.
- Click title to view abstract, citing items, references & related items:** Points to the title of the first search result.

Document title	Authors	Year	Source	Cited by
1 Assessment of bovine tuberculosis surveillance effectiveness in French wildlife: An operational approach	Jamin, C., Rivière, J.	2020	Preventive Veterinary Medicine 175,104881	0

5. Click on one of the items in your list to see:
 - An abstract.
 - Options for connecting to full text.
 - A list of later articles which have cited the article ('cited by' on the right).

- The article's bibliography ('References').
- Related documents (articles with at least one citation in common).

The screenshot shows a journal article page with several callout boxes:

- Articles that cite this article**: A yellow callout box pointing to the 'Cited by 0 documents' section.
- Connect to full text**: A yellow callout box pointing to the 'Find it @ Oxford' button.
- Article's abstract**: A yellow callout box pointing to the abstract text.
- Related documents: items with at least one citation in common**: A yellow callout box pointing to the 'Related documents' section.

6. Whilst viewing the abstract also note the keywords which are listed under 'topic'. These can help you identify further keywords to add to your search.

The screenshot shows the SciVal Topic Prominence interface:

- Topic:** Fungal Proteins | Penicillium chrysogenum | antifungal protein
- Prominence percentile:** 82.430

Connecting to the full text

1. To find the full text click 'Find it @ Oxford'. A new window will open listing:
 - 'Full-text available via': provides links to database which have the full text of the article.
 - 'Check SOLO': allows you to search for a printed copy of the article in Oxford Libraries.

Full Text:
 Full text available via [Wiley Online Library 2009 Full Collection](#)
 Full text available via [Wiley Online Library 2012 Full Collection](#)

Print holdings
 Check [SOLO](#)

Databases holding the full text of the article. Click on the link to connect.

Search for a printed copy of the article in Oxford

Finding an author (and dealing with variant author names)

1. Return to Scopus home page by clicking **Search** (top centre of screen).
2. Click on **Authors** at the top of the page to search by author.
 - Search for your supervisor and optionally supply the University under **Affiliation**.
 - Look at the results page which should list one or more authors. Note, sometimes Scopus says it has found a particular number of authors (e.g., 4) but does not display them all on screen. This is because by default it does not display authors with only one document on Scopus. To rectify this click **Show Profile matches with one document**.

Click 'Show Profile Matches with one document' to see all authors

Show profile matches only
 Show profile matches with one document

Refine results

Source title
 Nature (3) >

All Show documents

Author	View documents	Selected additional documents	Subject area
1 Knight, Richard S.G. Knight, R. S.G. Knight, Richard S. Knight, R.	<input type="checkbox"/>		136 Medicine ; Neuroscience ; Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology; ...

To view papers, tick the check box next to the author's name and then choose 'show documents'

- Tick the check box next to your supervisor. Bear in mind that the same author could be listed several times with different variations of their name so you may need to tick more than one box, e.g., Prof. Kay Davies has used K.E Davies, Kay E. Davies and Kay Elizabeth Davies.
- Click **Show Documents** to see the list of their papers in Scopus.

Finding more databases for your subject

Find database recommendations for your subject on Databases A-Z. To do this go to <https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php> and choose your subject area from the subject drop down menu.

Once you have chosen a subject, you will then see a full list of databases in your chosen subject.

FAQ: What's the difference between Scopus and PubMed?

They both search Medline, but Scopus also searches many other journals.

PubMed is free and covers over 5,600 journals from 1946 onwards. Strengths for clinical searches: MeSH Headings; Clinical Trial and Systematic Reviews filters.

Links to full text: if you're on the University network you can usually access articles from the ejournals Oxford subscribes to through the 'Find it @ Oxford' link. You can also access free full-text articles.

Scopus is a subscription database with **broader coverage** and links to **citing articles**. It searches MEDLINE and EMBASE + another 10,000 journals across science and medicine. It finds patents and scholarly web pages. It links neatly to EndNote and RefWorks. You can **set up alerts** and **get remote access** with your Oxford Single Sign-On. **Links to full text:** Scopus works with our link resolver 'Find it @ Oxford' to give access to Oxford full-text.