Beyond books & articles

Finding Theses
Finding dissertations & theses

Finding Oxford theses and dissertations

Finding theses and dissertations from other institutions
Why theses?

Relevance of up-to-date research

Springboard to scope existing literature

Inspiration of ‘the finished product’

Discovery of ideas outside a topic’s consensus

Evolution of an author’s ideas over time
Finding theses in Oxford

Print
- Search via SOLO for theses from 1920s onwards
- Ask the awarding Oxford department
- Ask your subject librarian

Digital
Oxford Research Archive
ora.ox.ac.uk (via SOLO)

Higher degree students registered since October 2007 must deposit a digital copy.
Finding theses on SOLO

To find a specific thesis:
◦ Use author surname/keywords from title

To browse theses supervised by a specific academic:
◦ Use supervisor’s name as search term

To browse theses by department:
◦ Use department name as search term
◦ Beware of name changes!

To search by thesis type:
◦ Use “D.Phil.” or “M.Phil.” as search terms
◦ Typing Dphil or Mphil brings back fewer results

Use Advanced Search and select “Theses (Oxford)” as Resource Type
Finding theses from other institutions

On Databases A-Z  Type dissertations
ProQuest Dissertations & Theses

Global (including UK and Irish content)

3.8 million dissertations & theses indexed

Over 1.7 million theses with full text availability (mainly US)
eThOS

- UK theses via the British Library
- Many available for free download (account must be created)
- Some theses unavailable or require digitisation
- Basic search features only (not special characters such as * etc)
OpenDOAR

Browse OpenDOAR for a specific awarding institution abroad.

http://www.opendoar.org/

Use the advanced search menu to filter your results.
Other options for finding full text theses

Inter-library loan (check with the awarding institution)

Visit the awarding university – contact the library first!

Contact the author
Handouts:

- Hidden Treasures: Key Links for Finding Theses and Dissertations
- Theses search exercises (SOLO, ProQuest, EThOS)

Available at:
https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/workshops/handouts