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

<table>
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<th>PRINT</th>
<th>DIGITAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Search via SOLO for theses from 1920s onwards</td>
<td>Oxford Research Archive <a href="ora.ox.ac.uk">ora.ox.ac.uk</a> (via SOLO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Search by supervisors or department</td>
<td>Higher degree students registered since October 2007 must deposit a digital copy; though some are retrospective conversion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ask your subject librarian</td>
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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
  - 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

Databases A-Z
Choose subject > Theses and dissertations

ProQuest Dissertations & Theses

eThOS (ethos.bl.uk)
ProQuest Theses & Dissertations

Mostly North American and UK 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
Other options for finding full text theses

OpenDOAR – check the research repository for the awarding institution ([http://www.opendoar.org/](http://www.opendoar.org/))

Inter-library loan – but most universities won’t lend theses

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