

Transcript: Databases

So, now I'm going to take you through setting up alerts and keeping current via bibliographic databases. Just to go through what bibliographic databases are. So, they are a digital collection of references to published literature. So, the Database Editors will go through thousands of journals looking at each article and describing each article in a systematic way. So, these databases are really useful for finding published literature on the field that you are interested in.

Some of the ones you may have heard of before are Scopus, ProQuest, Web of Knowledge, EBSCO, etc. The one I'm going to show you today is called Web of Science. Despite its name, Web of Science does cover all subjects: the sciences, the social sciences, the arts and humanities.

The index covers over 18,000 journals. So, each journal is examined by an editor and they look through each article, describe it systematically, which gives them a database of 1.7 billion cited references. So, this is a really useful resource if you're looking for material on a particular topic.

So, to find Web of Science, I will use SOLO. I will make sure that I am signed in. I will search for 'Web of Science'. And I can see this is the first result.

So, this is what the main page looks like. So, I'm looking at the Web of Science Core Collection. If you're wondering what exactly that comprises of, you can see under "more settings" at the bottom here, you can see a long list of all the different databases that you are searching. So, I'm just going to make sure that I search the Social Sciences Citation Indexes and Book Citation Indexes just because this is what I'm interested in. I'm not particularly interested in science related results.

So, I will perform my keyword search. I'll just type this in. So, I'm looking for articles that are being published on the ethnography and anthropology of migration and click 'search'. And you can see my results. So, it's brought me quite a lot of results. On the left hand side here we can see two thousand eight hundred and fifty results. At the moment they're sorted by date, but I may want to sort them by "times cited" just to give me an idea of which articles have been cited by other articles the most.

So, here I can see the top article "time cited" is "The new mobility paradigm". It's been cited nearly two thousand times. If I'm finding the results of this search really useful, I want to create an alert. You can do this on the left hand side. To create an alert, you'll need to set up a user account with Web of Science. I will just log in with mine. This is free to do, so well worth doing if you want to use the alert feature.

OK, so now I'm signed in at the top right hand side you can see it's got my first name, Helen. I need to give the alert a name, so I'll just call it the "anthropology of migration" and I can tick whether I want it to send me email alerts or whether I just want to be able to log in and see new articles. I'll choose for it to send me email alerts.

So, now it's telling me the alert is successfully created, how often I'll get e-mails, and I can manage any previous alerts.

If you're logging into Web of Science and doing the search and you want to look at what you searched for previously or have saved previously, you can do this in the top right hand corner. "Saved searches and alerts", "citation alerts" and "journal alerts" here you can manage these. You can delete or pause any alerts that you're no longer interested in. For example, I may decide that I want to reactivate my alert for the "anthropology of the military" or I may want to remove it completely.

It may be that one of the articles that is showing in the search is one that you're really interested in. And you think, hang on, I really want to keep track of how this article is being cited, how it's being used. If I want to create an alert for that specific article, I can click on the article title. This will give me more information about the article itself. So, the abstract, any key words that the author has given or key words that have been given by the Database Editor. They'll give me various citation information and author information. On the right hand side here, we can see the citation network. So, this gives me further details of which articles have cited this article. It also gives me the option to create a citation alert, so I will receive an email alert every time this article is cited by an article that has been added to the database.

It may be that you know exactly which article you want to create that citation alert for. So, you may not want to go and do the keyword searching to try and find the article, you know specifically which article you want to create that for. This is called a "cited reference search". So, if you have the article information already. So, for example, if I use one example from Elizabeth Ewart so the author, Elizabeth Ewart. The cited work, so I know that this is in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute. So, I'm just going to look for this.

So, here I can see the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute. I will choose the top row as it has the most citations. And at the bottom here I can see the work is now named and I will click "OK". I will add 2003 as I know this is the year. And click "search".

I can see here that the database has brought me back the information. So, the article "Lines and circles: images of time in a Panara village" that was published in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute by Elizabeth Ewart in 2003. If I click on the title, it brings me to this screen we have seen before where I can see the citation network as well as further information about the article such as the abstract, the author information and the publication details.