

# Welcome to the Bodleian Libraries II

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<https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/rees>



**1) The Bodleian Libraries support education and research, within a situated tradition of knowledge generation**

**2) How the Bodleian Libraries will facilitate your research.**

The history of the Bodleian Libraries' Slavonic collections

Primary and secondary sources (in our tradition)

Analogue sources and resources

Digital sources and resources, to find, evaluate, organise and share information

Virtual drop-in sessions: October 28; November 3

# The Bodleian physical collection

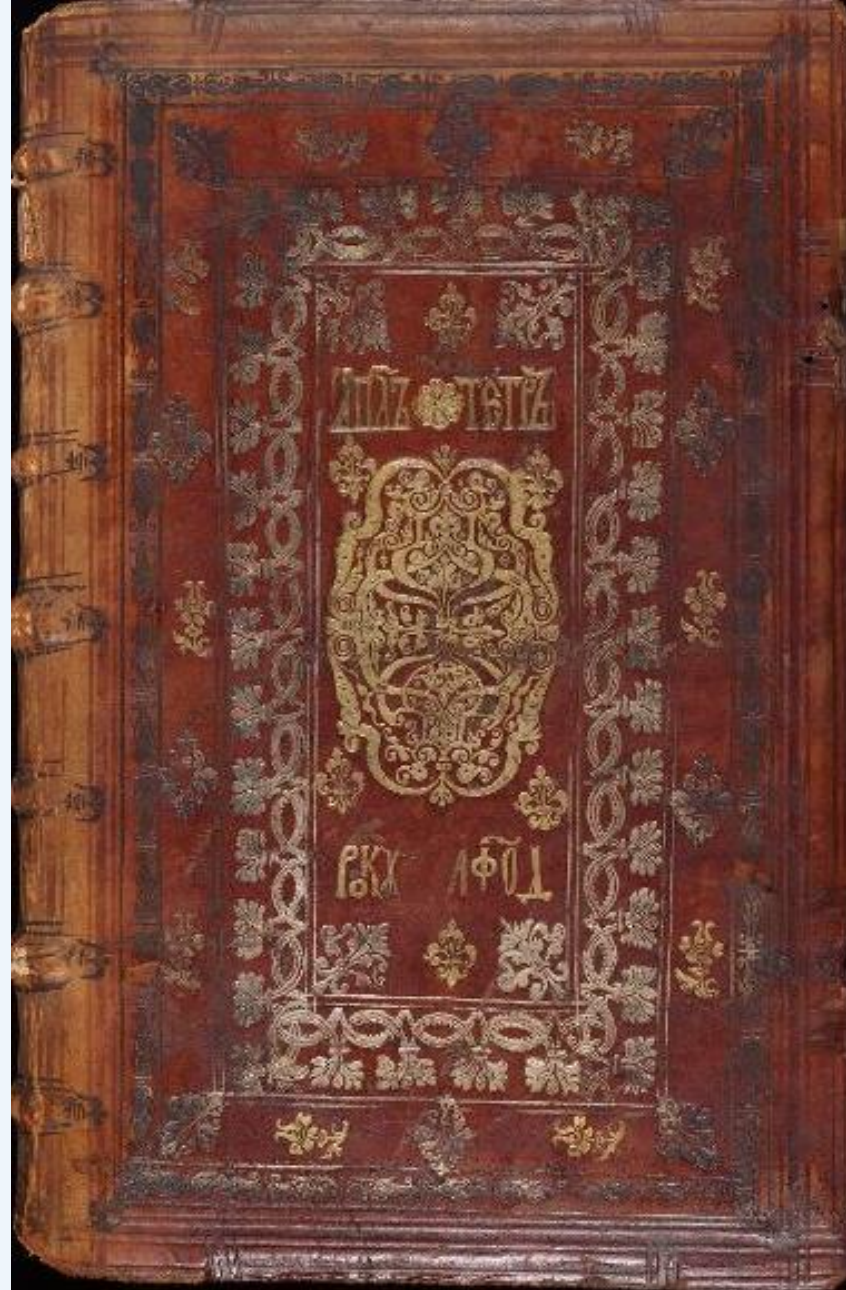
## History, and some notable collections:

- A collection of Russian newspaper and satirical journals published between 1904 – 1906
- A collection of the post-Soviet ‘alternative press’ of the late 1990s
- Newspaper and rare book collections on microfilm
- The Wardrop collection on Georgia
- The Libri Polonici collection on Poland
- The Libri Hungarici from Hungary
- The library and papers of C. A. Macartney on Hungary, the Habsburg Empire and the Danube Basin
- Press cuttings and typescripts on events in Hungary between 1945 and 1960
- The Bodleian map and music collections hold extensive collections of maps, atlases and musical scores from the region.



Photo: E. Peers

[www.digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://www.digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)



# ПОЕЗИІ ТАРАСА ШЕВЧЕНКА.

Чистий дохід на стипендію ім'я Шевченка

ТОМЪ I.



У ЛЬВОВІ.

Накладомъ К. Сущевича.

Зъ друкарні закладу имени Оссолинськихъ

1867.



Photo: E. Peers

# Subject Guide – Slavonic and East European Studies



Subject and research guides

[Bodleian Libraries](#) / [Oxford LibGuides](#) / [Slavonic and East European Area Studies](#) / [Home](#)

## Slavonic and East European Area Studies: Home

Guide to library provision for Slavonic and East European History and Social Sciences

**Subjects:** [Business, Economics, Geography, History – General & historical theory / methods, Politics and International Relations, Slavonic and Eastern European Studies](#)

Home

Books

Journals

Databases

Free Online Resources

Theses and Dissertations

### Purpose of this guide

This guide is intended for students and researchers studying Slavonic and East European Studies at the University of Oxford, although students and researchers from any field may find it useful.

The ongoing war in Ukraine means that some of the sources we indicate here may cause offence or distress. As the [Collection Management Policy](#) explains, our purpose is to provide the material our users need - whether or not this material accords with the convictions of staff members. We remind users to attend to their [wellbeing](#), as they pursue their study of this region - and to address any questions or concerns to Eleanor Peers, the Subject Consultant.

<https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/rees/home>



**Primary Sources:** material designated by the researcher as the subject/object of their research

**Secondary Sources:** contributions made within a discussion of a given phenomenon – hence they are one step removed from the phenomenon itself.

(See Lombard, Emmett. 2010. 'Perspectives on... Primary and Secondary Sources'. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 36(3): 250–253.)

## **Four sources:**

How would you evaluate their content, with reference to other material you may have seen?

What might be the motivation of the producer?

How might these resources be used as primary or secondary sources?

There are different traditions of knowledge generation

The complex distinction between primary and secondary sources within our own tradition of knowledge generation

The importance of interrogating the circumstances, position, techniques and possible intentions of source producers, while juxtaposing their content with other material.

## Finding Primary Sources at the Bodleian Libraries:

There is a wide variety of analogue and digital material available, in multiple formats.

Find books, journals, bibliographies, conference proceedings newspapers, videos, music and electronic resources via [SOLO](#)

Find archival material, rare books and manuscripts via e.g. [MARCO](#)

# The Bodleian physical collection

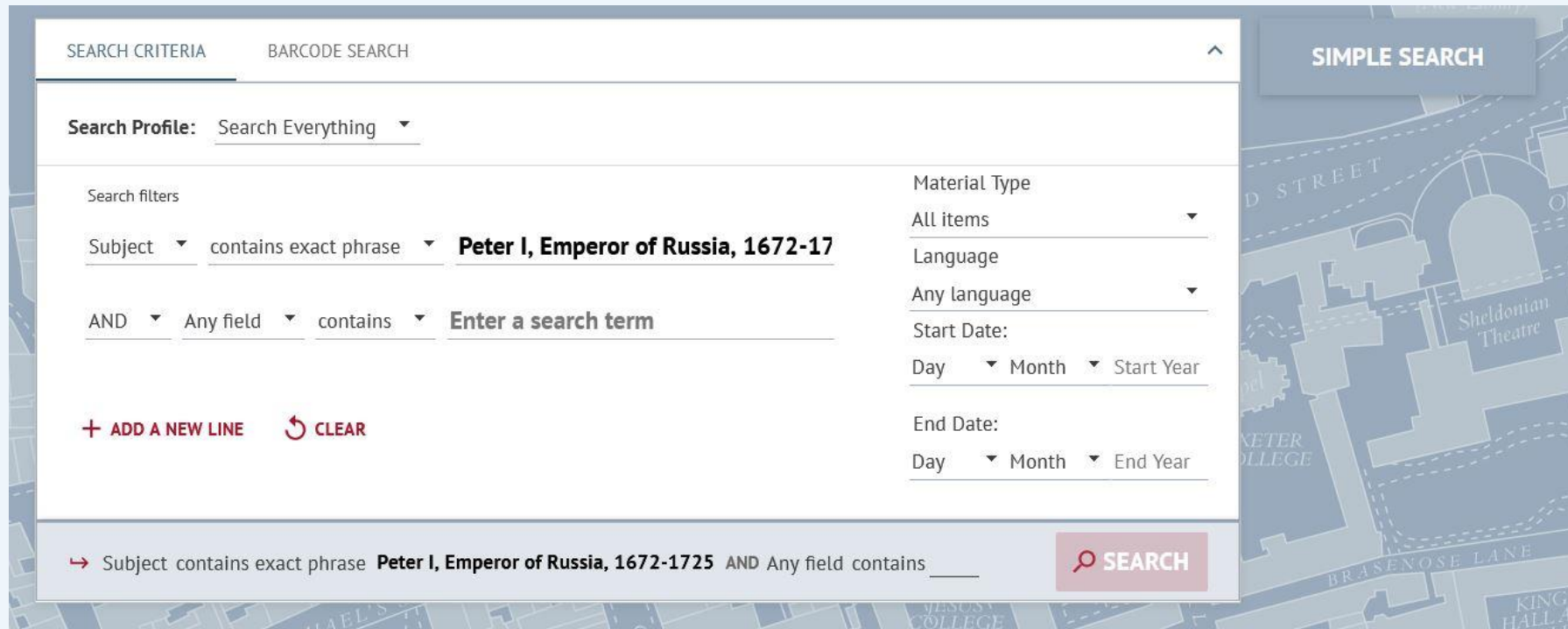
## Some things to know about SOLO and the Special Collections catalogues:

- **Most** catalogue records are in Library of Congress transliteration.
- Many records do not contain Cyrillic; a few are only in Cyrillic. Older records use pre-Revolutionary orthography
- Some sixteenth- and seventeenth-century items are in SOLO, rather than MARCO
- The attributions and information in some records can be offensive within the current geopolitical context. For example, information about the place of publication may not have been updated since the end of the Soviet Union.

# The Bodleian physical collection

## Tips and tricks for finding material in SOLO

Use Library of Congress subject headings in an advanced search:



The screenshot displays the SOLO search interface with the following elements:

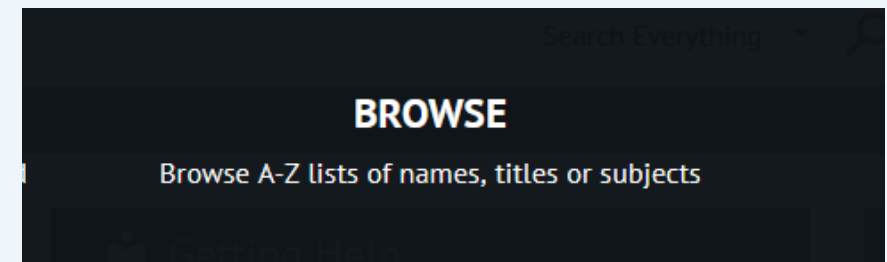
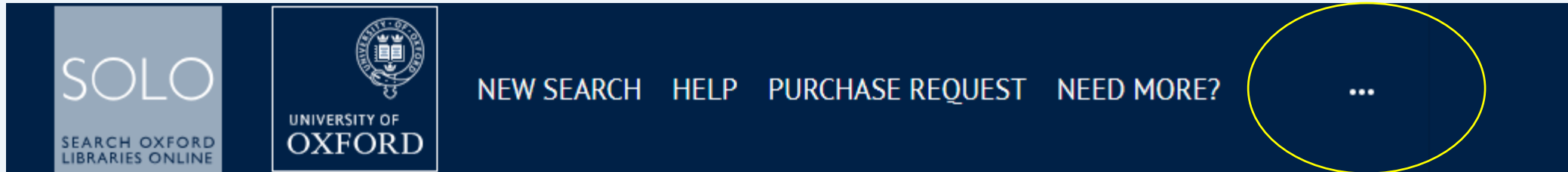
- SEARCH CRITERIA** and **BARCODE SEARCH** tabs at the top.
- Search Profile:** Search Everything (dropdown menu).
- Search filters:**
  - Subject:** contains exact phrase (dropdown) **Peter I, Emperor of Russia, 1672-17**
  - AND:** Any field (dropdown) contains (dropdown) **Enter a search term**
- Material Type:** All items (dropdown menu)
- Language:** Any language (dropdown menu)
- Start Date:** Day (dropdown) Month (dropdown) Start Year (dropdown)
- End Date:** Day (dropdown) Month (dropdown) End Year (dropdown)

At the bottom, a summary bar shows: **Subject contains exact phrase Peter I, Emperor of Russia, 1672-1725 AND Any field contains** followed by a **SEARCH** button.

# The Bodleian physical collection

## Tips and tricks for finding material in SOLO

Browse by Library of Congress Subject Headings:



# The Bodleian physical collection

## Tips and tricks for finding material in SOLO

Browse by Library of Congress Subject Headings:



The screenshot shows the SOLO search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to 'Browse by Subject - LCSH' and the search term 'Uzbekistan'. A magnifying glass icon is on the right of the search bar. Below the search bar, a list of results is displayed, each with a subject heading and the number of records.

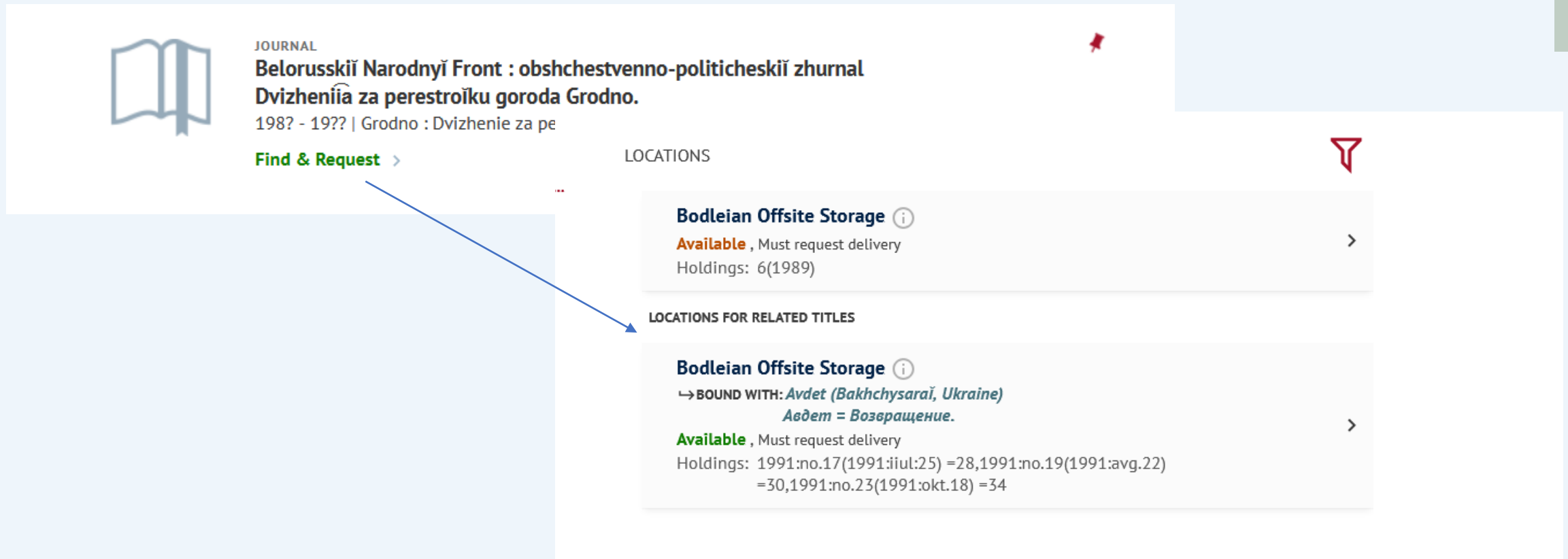
Uzbek wit and humor.	1 record
Uzbekistan Antiquities.	20 + records
Uzbekistan Civilization.	10 records
Uzbekistan Economic conditions.	20 + records
Uzbekistan Economic conditions 1918-1991.	3 records



# The Bodleian physical collection

## Tips and tricks for finding material in SOLO

Ordering newspapers in boxes from the CSF:



The screenshot displays the SOLO library catalog interface. On the left, there is a book icon and the text: "JOURNAL Belorusskiĭ Narodnyĭ Front : obshchestvenno-politicheskiĭ zhurnal Dvizheniia za perestroĭku goroda Grodno. 198? - 19?? | Grodno : Dvizhenie za pe". Below this is a green link "Find & Request >". A blue arrow points from this link to the "LOCATIONS FOR RELATED TITLES" section. The "LOCATIONS" section shows "Bodleian Offsite Storage" with status "Available", "Must request delivery", and "Holdings: 6(1989)". The "LOCATIONS FOR RELATED TITLES" section shows "Bodleian Offsite Storage" with status "Available", "Must request delivery", and "Holdings: 1991:no.17(1991:iiul:25) =28,1991:no.19(1991:avg.22) =30,1991:no.23(1991:okt.18) =34".

JOURNAL  
Belorusskiĭ Narodnyĭ Front : obshchestvenno-politicheskiĭ zhurnal  
Dvizheniia za perestroĭku goroda Grodno.  
198? - 19?? | Grodno : Dvizhenie za pe

[Find & Request >](#)

LOCATIONS

**Bodleian Offsite Storage** ⓘ  
**Available**, Must request delivery  
Holdings: 6(1989)

LOCATIONS FOR RELATED TITLES

**Bodleian Offsite Storage** ⓘ  
↳ BOUND WITH: *Avdet (Bakhchysarai, Ukraine)*  
*Avdet = Возвращение.*  
**Available**, Must request delivery  
Holdings: 1991:no.17(1991:iiul:25) =28,1991:no.19(1991:avg.22)  
=30,1991:no.23(1991:okt.18) =34

## The Bodleian physical collection: Examples of microform holdings

Literatura i zhizn'

SLAV.FILMS.924 (1928)(Microfilm)

Logos : mezhdunarodnyĭ ezhegodnik po filosofii kul'tury

SLAV.FILMS.918 (1925)(Microfilm)

Mansarda: literaturno-khudozhestvennyĭ ezhemĭesiĭchnik

SLAV.FILMS.923 (1930-1931)(Microfilm)

Mladorus' : periġodicheskiĭ literaturno-khudozhestvennyĭ sbornik [microform].

SLAV.FILMS.920(1,5) (1922)(Microfilm)

Novoe russkoe slovo

SLAV.FILMS.942 (Broken set : microfilm)

Novyĭ korabl' = Le Vaisseau nouveau

SLAV.FILMS.917 (1927-1928)

Ogni : ezhenediĕl'naĭa gazeta kul'tury, nauki, iskusstva i literatury.

SLAV.FILMS.919 (1924)(Microfilm)

Studencheskie gody

SLAV.FILMS.890-891 (Microfilm)

Teatr i zhizn'

SLAV.FILMS.922 (1920-1921)(Microfilm)

# The Bodleian physical collection

## Tips and tricks for finding material in SOLO

Try older printed bibliographies and union catalogues:

Printed bibliographical resources from the 1990s can be very useful. See for example the [Soviet Biographical Service](#), or Fitzpatrick and Viola's [Guide to Resources on Soviet Social History in the 1930s](#). You can find a collection of printed bibliographies in the Gladstone link, Level 2. These do not have a Library of Congress shelf-mark; their shelf-marks start with PS, e.g. PS.10.R.1.

A digital copy of one printed catalogue, 'Russian books from the Bodleian's pre-1920 catalogue' is available on the HathiTrust, [via SOLO](#). It can be searched via the [BETA version](#), and does not refer exclusively to Russian books...

These older books are a good source of search terms, e.g. towns of publication like Sanktpeterburg (Sankt Peterburg or Saint Petersburg) or Iur'ev (Tartu).

# Resources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

## Other collections in the UK, e.g.:

[The British Library](#)

[Cambridge University Library](#)

[The Scott Polar Research Institute](#) Library (University of Cambridge)

[The Shevchenko Library and Archive](#), at the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (London)

[The Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum](#)

The [Pitt Rivers Museum](#)

The [Ashmolean](#)

# Resources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

## Other collections around the world, e.g.:

The [Bavarian State Library](#)

The [Moldovan National Agency](#) for Archives

The [Forschungsstelle Osteuropa](#) at the University of Bremen

The [National Library of Latvia](#)

The [Ukrainian Collection](#) at Harvard University Library

# Resources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

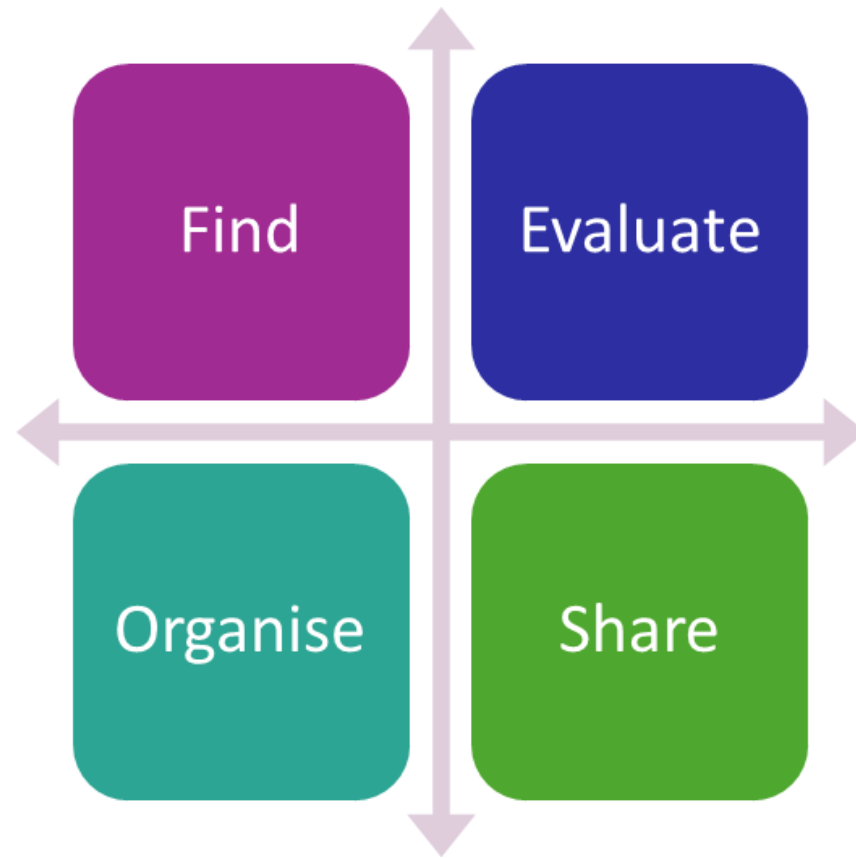
## Inter-library requests

Inter-library requests provide you with access to materials not held within the Bodleian Libraries. These materials can include copies of articles or book chapters.

Requests can be submitted through SOLO via the 'Need More?' link at the top of the screen.

The Bodleian Libraries have agreements with particular libraries across the world, which enable this sharing of material.

Find further information at [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/services/borrow/inter-library-requests](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/services/borrow/inter-library-requests)



From the Jisc Digital Capabilities Framework: <https://digitalcapability.jisc.ac.uk>

# Finding Primary Sources at the Bodleian Libraries:

Digital archives present corpuses of historical material that has been digitised. They may or may not be complete. East View Information Services provides many of these. They can be found on their [website](#), if you are logged in, and via SOLO.

Examples of digital archives are:

[Belarus Presidential Election, 2010](#)

[Foreign Broadcast Information Service](#)

[Stalin Digital Archive](#)

[National Digital Security Archive](#)

[Russia/NIS Statistical Publications](#)



## Finding primary sources at the Bodleian Libraries:

Databases that collect and present large amounts of e.g. grey literature or mass media content, and enable searches across this material, are becoming increasingly common. Examples are:

[BASE](#), or the Bielefeld Academic Search Engine

[Overton](#), for policy documents

[Factiva](#) and [Nexis UK](#), for mass media content

[BBC Monitoring](#), also for mass media content

[Russian Central Newspapers](#); [Arcanum Newspapers](#)

[Zakonodatel'stvo Stran SNG](#), for CIS legislation

# Finding Primary Sources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

## Free online resources, e.g.

[Russian Geographical Society](#) Online Library

The University of Toronto's [Samizdat Collection](#)

[Prozhyto](#)

[Russian Historical Statistics](#)

[Online primary resources](#) for Russian, Caucasian, Central Asian, Eastern and Central Europe Studies

# There is a great deal of material freely available on the Internet, but please remember Copyright legislation:

Some common REES practices risk legal action for infringement of copyright.

You infringe copyright when you copy or circulate works still in copyright, when you are not the rights holder.

Please see the Bodleian Libraries [Guide to Copyright](#) for more information, or email the Copyright Guidance team at [copyright@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:copyright@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

# Finding Secondary Sources at the Bodleian Libraries:

## General bibliographic databases:

These present bibliographic information about resources from across the world. Use this bibliographic information to find the resources themselves in SOLO. You will find e-journals and databases A-Z particularly helpful.



Clicking the Find it @ Oxford button in bibliographic records on certain databases will search SOLO for the resource in question.

# Finding secondary sources: general bibliographic databases

[ProQuest International Bibliography of Social Sciences](#)

[Web of Science](#)

[EBSCOhost](#), providing access to

[Historical Abstracts](#)

# Finding Secondary Sources:

## Global union catalogues and Open Access collections

[Worldcat](#)

[Jisc Library Hub Discover](#), for UK collections

OpenDOAR [directory](#) of Open Access repositories

[DOAJ](#): Directory of Open Access journals

The [Digital Book Index](#)

# Subject-specific bibliographic databases:

Examples of REES-related bibliographic databases:

[Central and Eastern European Online Library](#) (CEEOL) Nb. This also links to content

[American Bibliography of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies](#) (ABSEES)

[European Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies](#) (EBSEES)

[University Theses in Russian, Soviet, and East European Studies](#) (UTREES)

[Russian National Bibliography](#)

# Finding Secondary Sources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

Regional electronic catalogues and Open Access platforms, e.g.

[Elibrary.ru](http://elibrary.ru)

[Russian National Library](http://www.rsl.ru) (RNB)

The State Archive of Ukraine's [combined search platform](#)

Russian [National Electronic Library](http://www.nelib.ru) (NEB)

[Cyberleninka](http://www.cyberleninka.ru)



## Steps in systematic searching:

- 1) Identify the key concepts in your research question
- 2) Create a table of words and synonyms for these concepts
- 3) Link these words and synonyms together using Boolean logic, to create a search string
- 4) Put this into a bibliographic database, and record the the number and relevance of results
- 5) Try different variations, recording each one and its results, and identifying new synonyms from useful abstracts
- 6) Move on to citation searches, and to searching bibliographies.

## Boolean operators:

‘and’ to combine multiple search terms

‘or’ to search for one term and its variant

‘not’ to exclude a term

## Special characters:

Use truncation (\*) for alternative word endings and plurals

Use wildcard (?) to replace single characters

Double quotation marks create a phrase, e.g. “Indigenous rights”

## AI search tools vs. systematic searches:

Artificial Intelligence can search huge volumes of content very quickly. However it is worth remembering that:

- AI searches often are impossible to replicate
- AI tools are still capable of returning hallucinations – i.e., rubbish
- If AI personalises your searches, it is capable of skewing your reading into a particular circle of discussion, which may be biased towards the Global North. There is evidence that the Russian Federation is deliberately ‘grooming’ ChatGPT.

Hence we recommend using a wide variety of search tools and techniques, which includes systematic searches in several bibliographic databases, from across the world.

# Some AI Tools for Bibliographic Research

- University-approved GenAI tools: ChatGPT Edu, Google Gemini, Microsoft 365 Copilot (see here for more information, including how to get access: <https://oerc.ox.ac.uk/ai-centre/generative-ai-tools/>)
- “Research-focused” GenAI: Consensus, Elicit, Perplexity, Scite
- Literature mapping tools: Connected Papers, ResearchRabbit
- Writing assistants: Grammarly, QuillBot

# The University's Policies on AI

- AI can be a supportive tool in learning, so long as it's used appropriately and responsibly
- AI may only be used within assessments where prior authorisation has been given, or when technology that uses AI has been agreed as reasonable adjustment for a student's disability (e.g. voice recognition software for transcriptions)
- A policy is in effect for AY25/26 setting out the expectations for students undertaking summative assessments:  
<https://academic.admin.ox.ac.uk/ai-use-in-summative-assessment>
- For an overview of University policies on AI, see our LibGuide:  
<https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using-ai-to-support-academic-work/university-policies>

# AI LibGuide

- <https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using-ai-to-support-academic-work/>
- An introductory guide for students and researchers to begin exploring the use of AI and GenAI in academic work
- Supports the development of practical skills in using AI ethically and effectively
- Sections include the University's policies on AI, uses and limitations of AI, current AI tools, prompting guidance, how to reference/acknowledge AI, and resources and contacts for further support

Google scholar vs. SOLO:

Google Scholar has deals with publishers, to be able to search behind paywalls for academic content – like SOLO! Hence Google Scholar is very helpful if you don't have a University affiliation

You can link Google Scholar to the Bodleian Libraries if you are logged in to Google, via settings/Library Links

# Machine translation

Multitran: <https://www.multitran.com>

DeepL: <https://www.deepl.com/ru/translator/l/ru/uk>

Imtranslator (compares translators):  
<https://imtranslator.net/compare/>

A link to Library of Congress transliteration tables is on the Subject Guide





# Finding Secondary Sources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

## Alerts and bibliography searches

You can set up alerts at your key journals, to receive information about newly-published articles

You can also set up alerts at major bibliographic databases, to receive news about searches you have run

If you find a good secondary source, you can search its bibliography

Find out more at iSkills 'Keeping up to date with research'

# Evaluating secondary sources:

## Citation searches and journal impact factors

Key bibliographic databases provide measurements of how often a work is cited.

They will also show journal ‘impact factors’, which measure how influential a given journal is within a discipline.

# Organising sources: Reference management

Good reference management helps you to avoid plagiarism

Make your decision about reference management software at the beginning of your research

Explore different reference management systems, with reference to your specific needs

Some software doesn't work well with Cyrillic, or with Slavonic databases. Nb. Zotero works with [elibrary.ru](http://elibrary.ru)

See the iSkills courses on Reference management software.



# Organising sources: Reference management

The University has a subscription to EndNote and RefWorks, so they are free for you to use.

Zotero is free but you need to pay for increased storage space.

[University Guidance on Plagiarism](#)

['Managing your References' guide](#)

[Cite Them Right](#)



# Organising sources at the Bodleian Libraries: Data management

The Bodleian Libraries provide access to various data sets, in addition to information and support about data and data management.

The Bodleian Libraries webpage on data is [here](#). You may also like to see the [Subject Guide](#) on Data and Statistics in the Social Sciences.

One REES-specific data resource is [Russia/NIS Statistical publications](#).

# Research Data Oxford

**Data  
management  
plans**

**Funder  
requirements**

**Storage and  
back-up**

**Preservation  
and sharing**

**Personal and  
sensitive data**

**Tools, services,  
and training**



The screenshot shows the Research Data Oxford website homepage. At the top left is the University of Oxford logo and the Research Data Oxford logo. The main header reads "Research Data Oxford" with the tagline "Make your data count". A navigation menu includes "Managing research data", "Policy and funder requirements", "Tools, services, and training", "Events", "FAQs", "A-Z index", "Glossary", and "Contact us". A sidebar on the left lists topics: "About data management", "Data management plans", "Ethical and legal issues", "Data handling and acquisition", "Keeping working data safe", "Post-project data preservation", and "Sharing data". The main content area features a "Welcome to the Research Data Oxford website" heading and four large tiles: "New to all this? Start here" (with a question mark icon), "University of Oxford policy" (with a quill icon), "Depositing your data in an archive" (with a database and document icon), and "Contact us" (with a speech bubble and envelope icon). At the bottom, a welcome message states: "Welcome to the Research Data Oxford website: the University of Oxford's central source of information and guidance relating to research data management. This site is for Oxford researchers at all levels (including students doing research projects) who are dealing with research".

<https://researchdata.ox.ac.uk>  
[researchdata@ox.ac.uk](mailto:researchdata@ox.ac.uk)



# Open access



When you publish your work do you want it to be available for as many people to read as possible, especially those who can't afford to pay?

Are you in receipt of research funding and know that your funder requires you to publish your work a certain way?

Have you heard the term 'open access' and don't know what it means?

Open Scholarship Support offer a host of useful resources on our website and you can attend online taught courses on the subject.

Find out more: [openaccess.ox.ac.uk](https://openaccess.ox.ac.uk)

# Oxford University Research Archive (ORA)

<https://ora.ox.ac.uk>

*Making research open access  
through a repository such as  
ORA removes the barriers that  
restrict access to research*

ORA

OXFORD UNIVERSITY  
RESEARCH ARCHIVE



- ORA is the Institutional repository for the University of Oxford – deposit is available for University members (academic researchers, students and staff).
- ORA's purpose is to **collect**, **preserve**, and **disseminate** the University's research.
- Deposit of any D.Phil., M.Litt. and M.Sc. (by research) thesis into ORA is **mandatory**.
  - <https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/digitaltheses>
- Multiple item types can be deposited and made available via ORA: Journal articles, conference papers, theses, data, book sections, working papers, reports, posters, etc. from any discipline.
- Underlying research data can be deposited, and made available with a DOI (Digital Object Identifier), via ORA and linked to your research publication(s) and/or theses.
- ORA provides greater visibility for your work and is indexed by data aggregators and search engines such as Bing, Baidu, and Google.
- There are over 300k records of research available via ORA, and more than 130k files for download.
- Please come to one of our information sessions.
- ORA helpdesk – [ora@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ora@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

## Resources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

Scholarly collaborations, their mailing lists and online outputs, e.g.

H-net networks, e.g. [H-SHERA](#)

The University of Toronto's [Samizdat Collection](#)

[BASEES](#) – British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies

[SUCHO](#) – Saving Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Online

[Library of Congress Russian Independent Media](#) collection

## Resources beyond the Bodleian Libraries:

Reference services, and programmes for REES research after the invasion of Ukraine, e.g.

[The Slavic Reference Service](#), University of Illinois

[The Russia Program](#) at IERES, George Washington University



Any questions?  
[www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ask](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ask)

