

MultiSearch is ...

MultiSearch is a federated search engine that allows you to simultaneously search multiple databases within Adelphi University (AU) Libraries' collection and combine the results into one list. The user can cross search databases within one subject area or across multiple subject areas, from one search interface.

To cross search *multiple* subject areas

Title Search

Select All - Searches all subjects shown below.

- ✓ [Anthropology](#)
- [Art](#)
- ✓ [Biographies](#)
- [Biology](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Communicative disorders](#)
- [Criminal Justice](#)
- ✓ [Earth Science](#)
- [Education](#)
- [General](#)
- [Government Documents](#)
- [History](#)
- [Law](#)
- [Library & Information Science](#)
- [Literature](#)
- [Mathematics & Computers](#)
- [Medicine & Health](#)
- ✓ [Multi-subject](#)

To search for a topic in more than one subject area, use MultiSearch's Search by Subject page (the default page).

For example, to search for "global warming" (please enclose a phrase in quotation marks), here, the **Anthropology**, **Biology**, **Earth Science** and **Multi-subject** boxes have been checked. Your term will be simultaneously searched in all of these subject areas.

Alternatively, if you check the 'Select All' box, the term will be searched in all subject areas listed.

To cross search databases within one subject area

Title Search

Select All - Searches all subjects shown below.

- [Anthropology](#)
- [Art](#)
- [Biographies](#)
- [Biology](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Communicative disorders](#)
- [Criminal Justice](#)
- ✓ [Earth Science](#)
- [Education](#)
- [General](#)

To search for results within a specific subject area, e.g. **Earth Science**, check the box next to this subject heading, type the term in the search box and click the Search button.

Title

[All Categories](#) > Earth Science

- Select All** - Searches all databases shown below.
- [Annual Reviews](#) - a collection of critical reviews published annually in 32 disciplinary areas within the Biomedical, Physical, and Social Sciences. Annual Reviews Back Volumes, dating back to 1932, are included
- [Applied Science & Technology Full Text](#) - includes data from scientific and technical periodicals, featuring charts, illustrations, photos, diagrams charts, as well as select full text articles. Indexing dates back to 1983 and full text, from 1997.
- ✓ [Biological & Agricultural Index Plus](#) - includes abstracts and full text coverage for a wide range of scientific journals that pertain to biology and agriculture. Indexing dates back to 1983, with full text coverage beginning in 1994.
- ✓ [GeoRef](#) - contains over 2.6 million bibliographic records from more than 3,000 journals and other sources. Provides coverage in subject areas such as mineralogy and crystallography, general mineralogy, mineralogy of silicates, and mineralogy of non-silicates.
- ✓ [JSTOR Multiple Collections](#)

Alternatively, you can click on the red subject heading (e.g., **Earth Science**) for a list of all resources in this subject area included in MultiSearch. Then check the boxes of all the databases you choose to search. Type in search term and click on Search.

MultiSearch Basics

? Some AU databases are not compatible with MultiSearch and are therefore not included. For a complete list of AU databases, see the "Databases A – Z" or "Research by Subject" pages.

? Some features available within a specific database are not available through the MultiSearch interface. It can be helpful to note the databases resulting in the best information for you via MultiSearch and then to search these databases individually, from their vendor interfaces.

? You can search each database from its vendor interface by clicking on the database title within MultiSearch subject or database listing. For in-depth research, you may get better results by choosing a database and searching it using its own interface.

? Search results may be very large and imprecise if you use common terms in keyword search or if you select an unlimited number of databases to search. Limiting your search to the title field, and to 4 or 5 databases at a time - or to one subject area – often results in a more focused retrieval than searching many databases at once.

Clustering

MultiSearch groups your search results by topic or subject category. This grouping, called clustering, includes results by topics narrower than or related to your search. For example, a search on "global warming" retrieves the following clustered results:


Topics	Date	Journals	Authors
Clustered Results			
All Topics (280)			
+	Climate	(50)	
+	Environmental	(31)	
+	Science	(22)	
+	Edited	(18)	
+	Greenhouse Gases	(18)	
+	Response to global warming	(12)	
+	Reviews	(11)	
+	Scientists	(11)	
+	Tropical Storms	(9)	
+	Predict. Regions	(8)	
	More		

Clicking on **More** completes the list of clustered topics available:

- **Threat** (8)
- **Forests** (7)
- **Ice** (7)
- **Perspectives** (7)
- **Efforts** (5)
- **Film. Gore** (5)
- **Global Warming Solutions** (5)
- **Other** (125)

Clustering can help to narrow your search or identify new ideas to refine your search.

Search Tips

- ? Use quotation marks to search a phrase (e.g. "global warming").
- ? Use an asterisk (*) for more than one word ending (e.g. tropic* will retrieve tropic, tropics, tropical)
- ? Click on "Revise Search" to change your search or add additional search terms without losing databases or subject areas previously chosen.
- ? Retrieve the full text of an article by clicking on the  button on the MultiSearch results page, if it is contained in a journal within the AU Libraries' collection.

More MultiSearch Help

Click [here](#) for a complete user guide to MultiSearch.

Need more help? Ask a librarian at the Reference Desk: 877-3574