



Accessing Library Databases Transcript NAIT Library

Welcome to NAIT Library's tutorial on accessing library databases.

Databases provide online access to articles in magazines, academic journals, and newspapers. Some also provide access to reports, company financial data, and even e-books. Often the full text is available, so you can read the complete article online.

Databases are available from the NAIT library homepage at www.nait.ca/library. Click on the **Find Articles & More** tab from the blue toolbar.

On the next page, under **Database & Article Searching**, there are two ways to choose databases: by name, or by category. To access a specific database, use the **Choose database by name** option for an alphabetical list of all library databases. Click the **Choose databases by category** option if you're not sure which databases to search. Let's look at the category options.

You'll often want to search databases from more than one category. For example, for a report about management in the health industry, try the **Business/Economics/Hospitality** databases as well as the **Health & Medical** databases. If you're researching a topic with a Canadian focus, check the **Canadian Coverage** category. Some databases cover many different disciplines or subject areas, and are found in the **Multi-Subject** category. Explore several categories to be sure you're choosing the best databases for your topic.

Once you have selected a category of databases to explore, click on the link. Let's **click** on the **Multi-Subject** link for the list of multi-subject databases.

You will see the bulleted list of database names; these titles are links take you to a description of what you will find in each particular database and the link to access the database.

Once you have clicked on a database name, check the description on the next page to determine if the database is appropriate for your research. For **Quick Tips**, click the light bulb icon to the right of the database title. **Quick Tips** are short guides that provide examples of effective search techniques for that database. Consult them whenever you're unfamiliar with a database, or when you don't get the results you expect.

Let's take a look. Here is the description for **Academic OneFile**. It covers a wide range of academic topics, making it an ideal starting point for your research.

Click on the title link to open the database, and the search interface will open in a new window. You'll need to authenticate or login by entering your student ID number and last name.

Returning to the **Find Articles & More** page, to search for articles in a specific **journal**, you'll need to know which database to look in. Let's click the **Journal Title List** link on the right to search for full-text access to a specific journal. You will be searching the A-Z list which includes all full-text journals—whether they're in a database, a separate subscription to an online journal, or print journals on the library shelves. For example, let's look for **Computerworld**. Enter the journal name in the search box and click **Find It**. Click on the hyperlinked title for a new window listing the NAIT library databases containing this journal. Click on the database name for direct access.

Choosing the right databases for your search is the first step in acquiring high quality, relevant articles for your research. If you have questions about accessing library databases, or want to know more about our services and resources, please use one of the **Ask Us** options listed on the library website. Thank you.