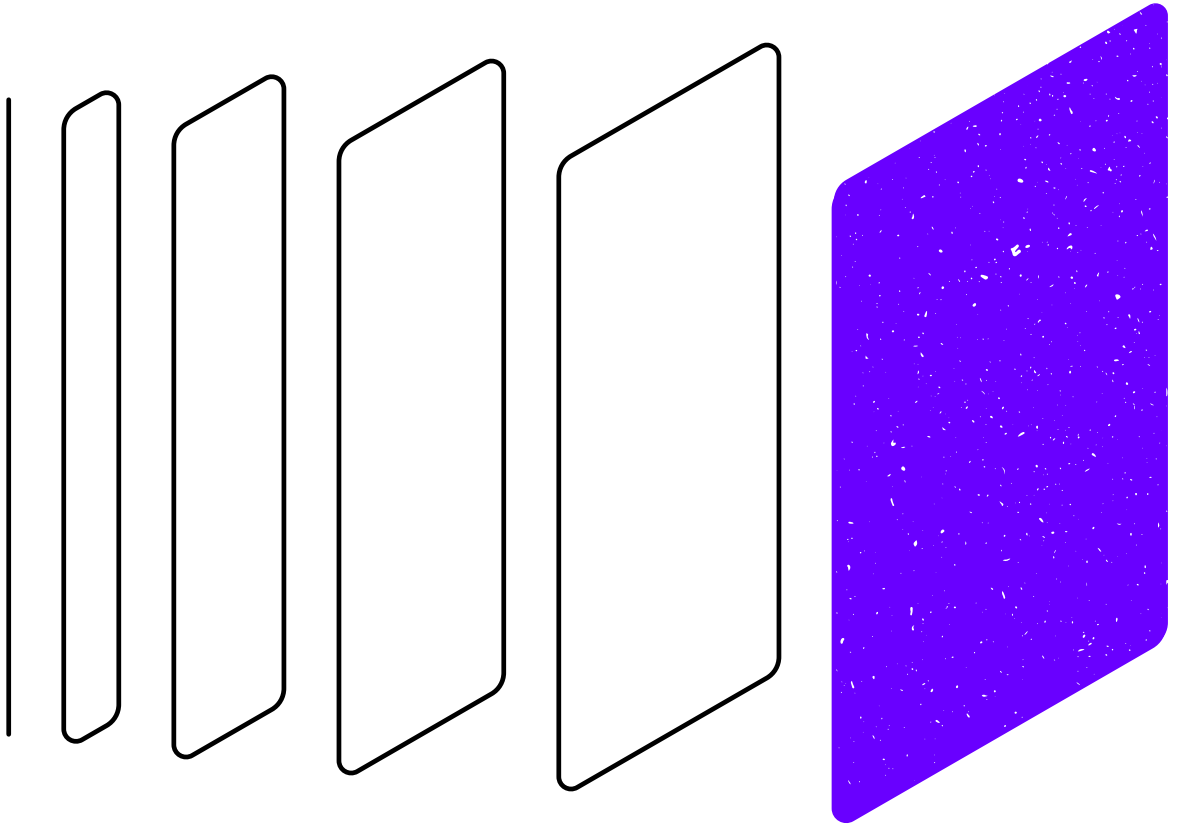
THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Library

Finding Academic Literature



Academic Support Librarians

http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/asl

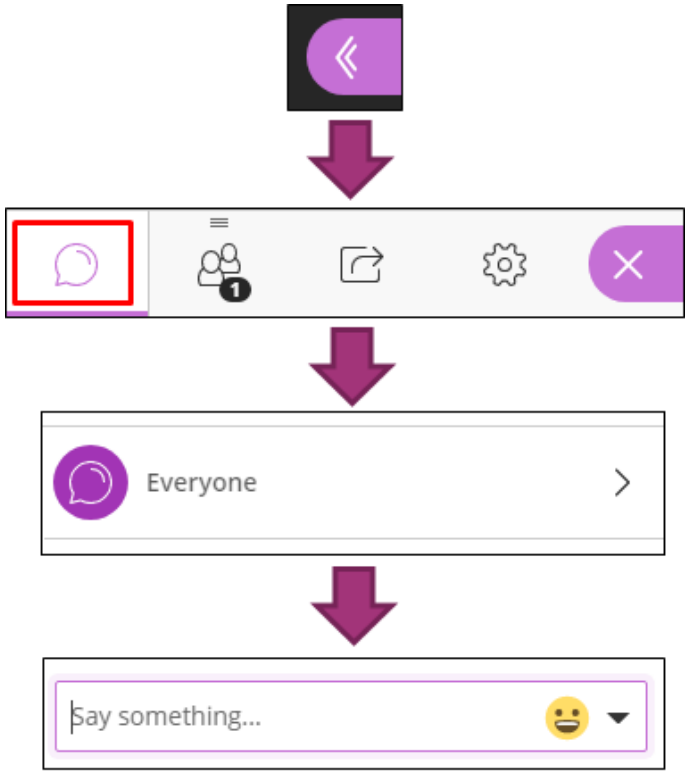
Audio Check

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

I’m now talking - Can you hear me ok?

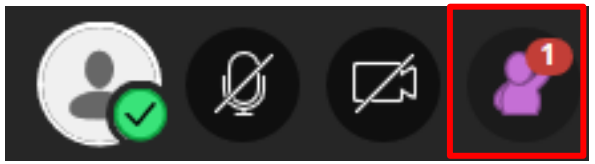
Please indicate yes or no using the text chat tool.

The Chat is accessed via the purple tab in the bottom right corner.

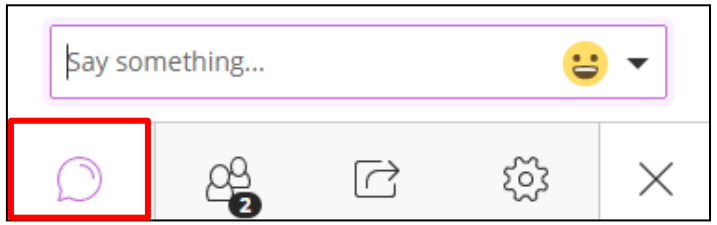


Asking questions

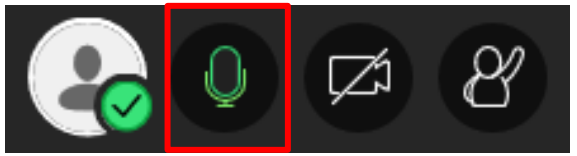
Use the hand raise icon to queue up your question.

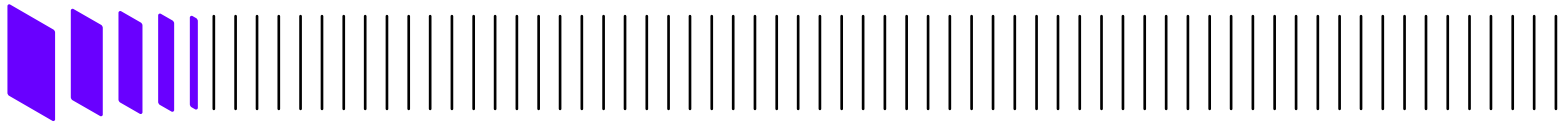


When called upon to ask your question type a question in the Chat.

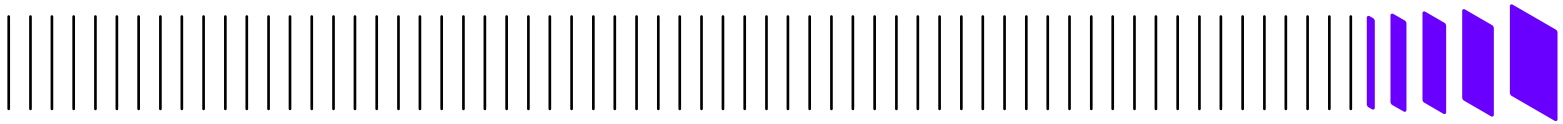


Or click on the Audio icon then speak your question.





Finding academic literature



This session will cover…

- Library resources and services
- Finding academic literature on your subject
- How to conduct a literature search
- Accessing resources off campus
- Brief introduction to reference management software

Aims

- To get you started with your literature review.
- To introduce you to a range of information resources at Edinburgh.
- Getting to know the literature/information landscape for your subject
- To highlight the tools available to help you find information at Edinburgh, and beyond.
- To introduce techniques that will enable you to make effective use of the resources available to retrieve and manage information for your research.

The Library provides access to …

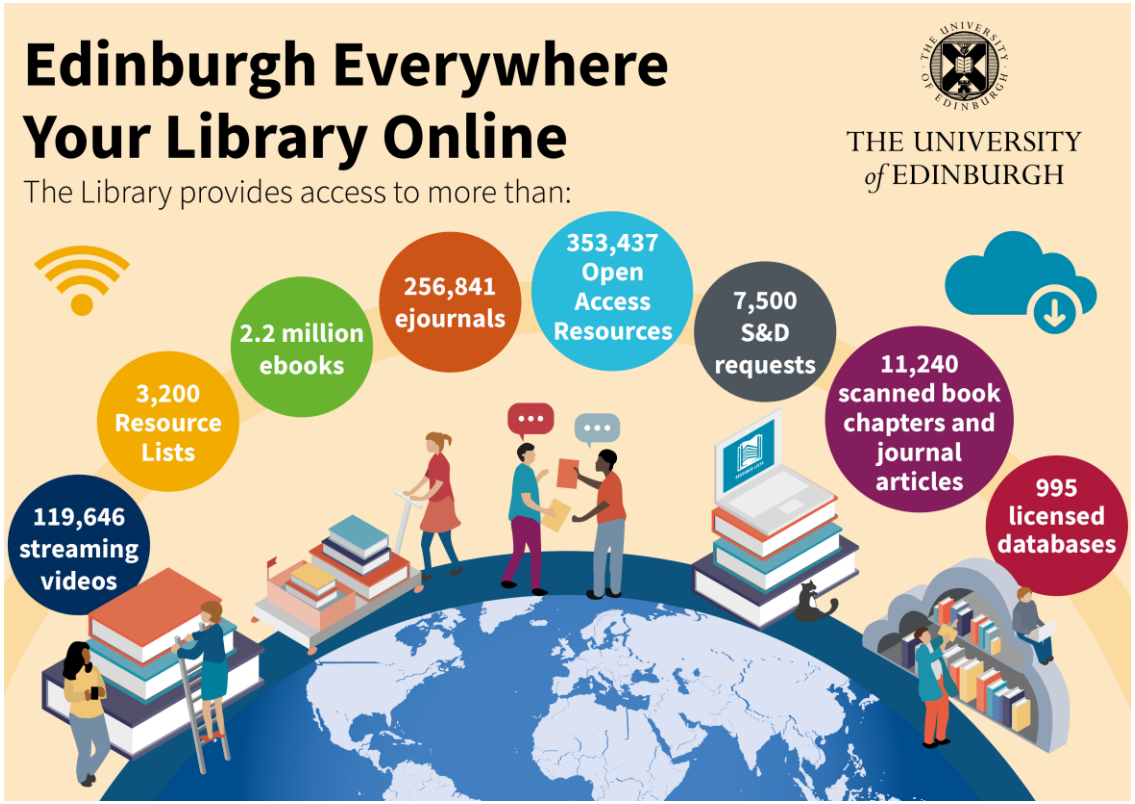
2.2 million ebooks

- Bought through various suppliers and on different platforms

256,841 ejournals

- Not always bought from every available host site, but there may be several access options in DiscoverEd
- We don't always have online access from volume 1
- Check DiscoverEd for print journals and use Scan & Deliver service

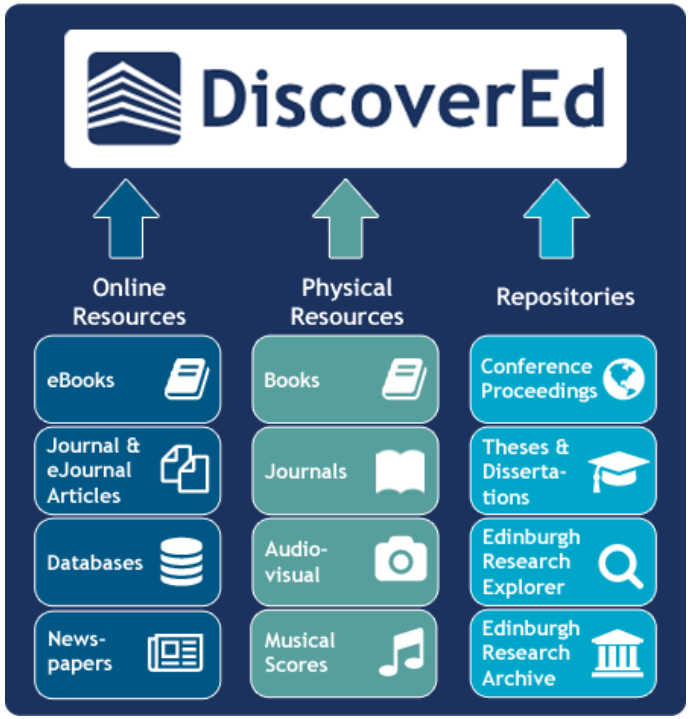
We also have print resources at the Noreen and Kenneth Murray Library and another ten physical Library sites.



DiscoverEd

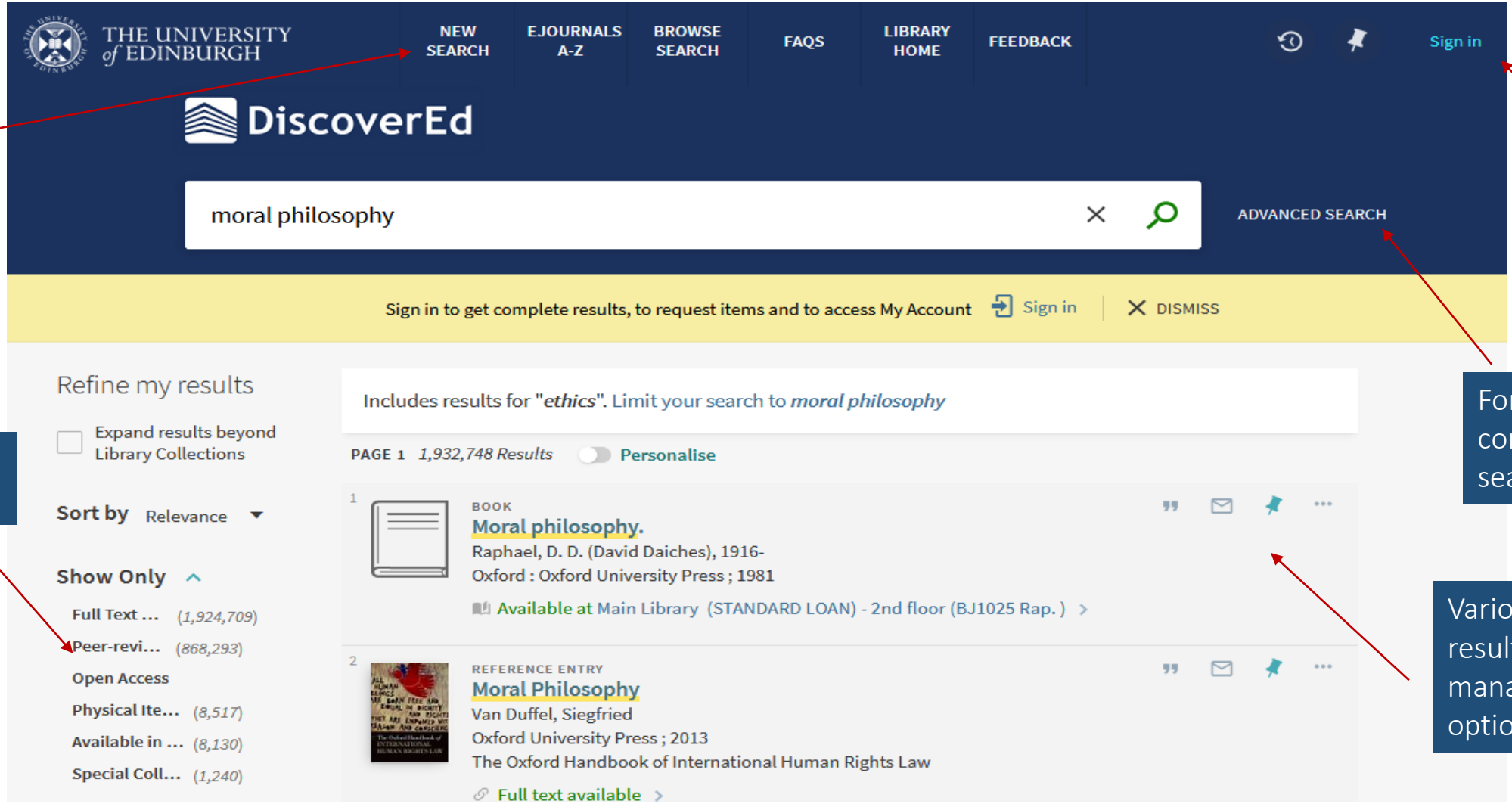
http://discovered.ed.ac.uk

- **DiscoverEd** is the Library's discovery service.
  Use it to search the Library's collections, including
  - e-books
  - e-journal titles and articles
  - some databases (doesn't include some subject databases)
  - open access resources
- **Sign in** to your Library Account to get access to our online resources



How to search DiscoverEd:
http://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/library-museum-gallery/discovery/searching-discovered

Using DiscoverEd



Explore!

Sign in here!

For more complex searching

refine your search

Various search results management options

Bibliographic Databases

Bibliographic databases:

- Searchable databases containing information about the professional literature, such as journal articles, conference papers etc.
- Give details of the ‘reference’ or ‘citation’ of the journal article
- Many include abstracts
- Don’t usually include full-text, but may have links to the Library’s e-journals

Why use a bibliographic database?

- The most up-to-date and in-depth research is published in journals
- You can set up ‘current awareness’ searches – the database will automatically run your search each time it’s updated and email you the results.
- Can set up complex searches

Some databases for reviewing the literature

Have a look at the Databases by Subject guides for recommendations on which databases you might want to use.

Web of Science Core Collection (Science Citation Index , Proceedings…)

- Covers over 21,000 journals in science, engineering, social sciences and the humanities.
- Very up to date – content added daily
- Cited reference search - tracking a particularly useful article through the literature since it was published.

Scopus

- Abstract and citation database containing both peer-reviewed research literature and quality web sources.
- Covers 19,500 journals from health, life, physical and social sciences and the humanities.

Medline

- References from 1966 onwards.
- Covers worldwide medical literature including research, clinical practice, policy issues etc.
- Covers 3,200 journals published in the USA and about 70 other countries

Some Subject Specific Bibliographic Databases

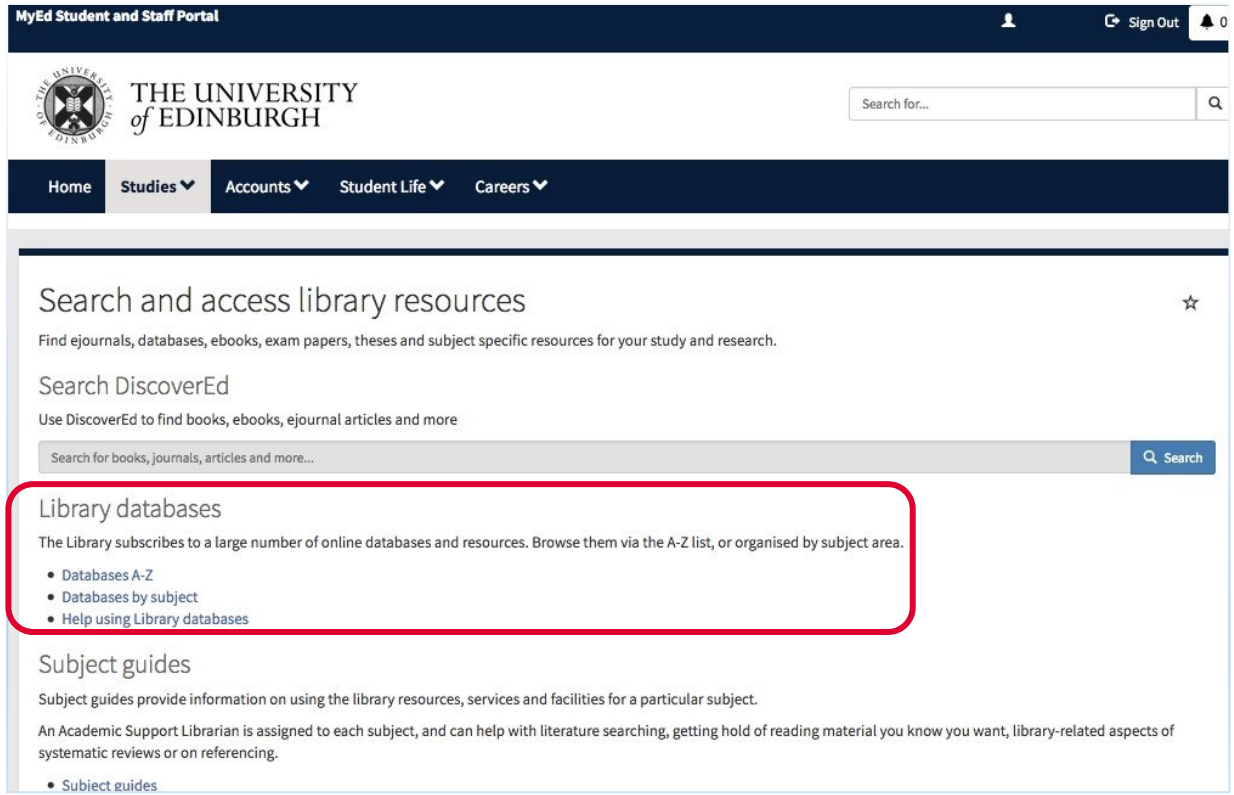
- Subject database lists, or A-Z

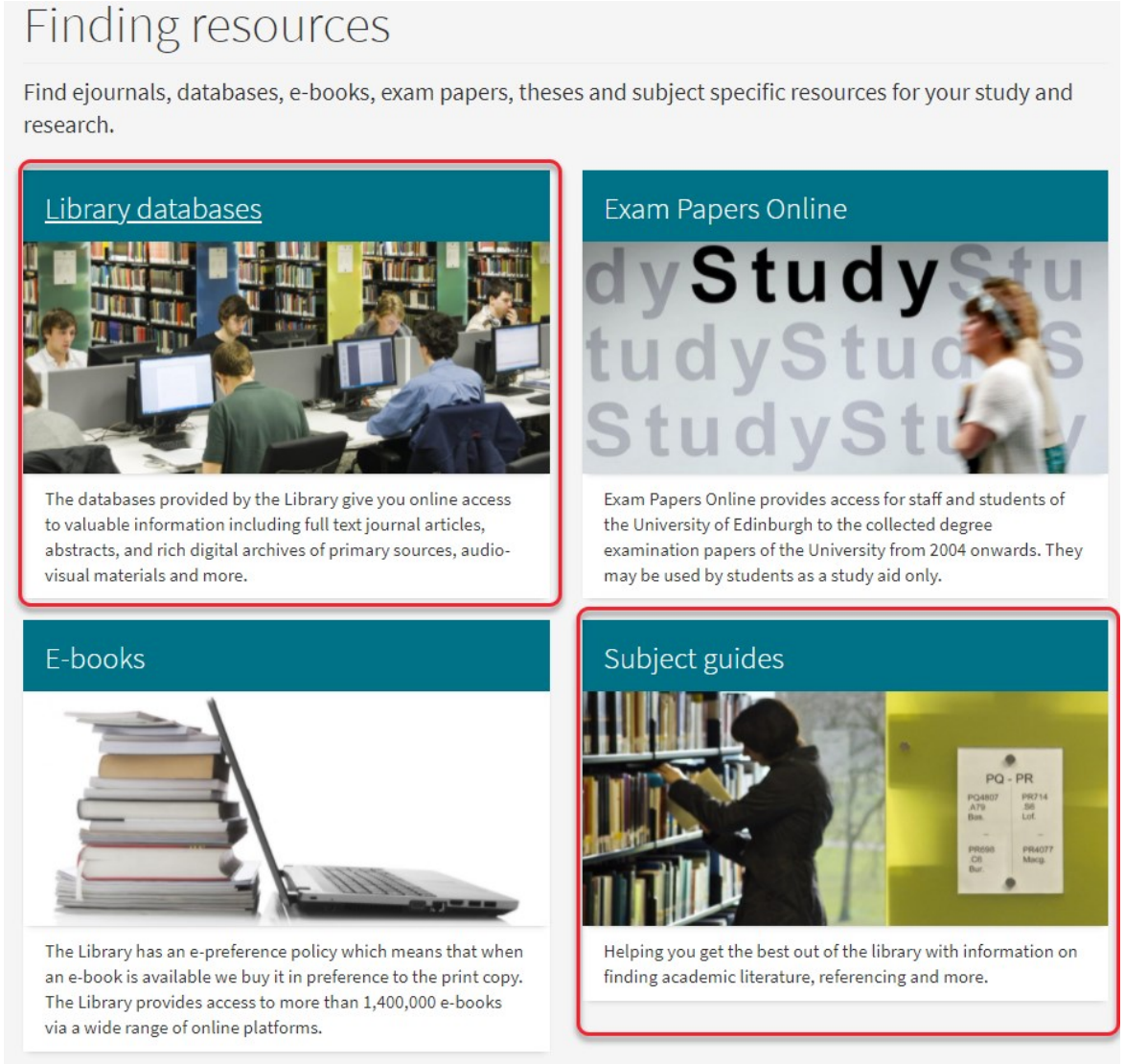
- Agricola (*agriculture*)
- Biosis *(biology, environmental)*
- CAB Abstracts *(agriculture, biology, environmental)*
- GeoScience World (*mineralogy journals not found elsewhere*)
- Scifinder *(chemistry)*
- IEEE Xplore (*engineering, computing, physics*)
- Compendex (*engineering*)

and others ...

Subject Guides will provide more https://edinburgh-uk.libguides.com/

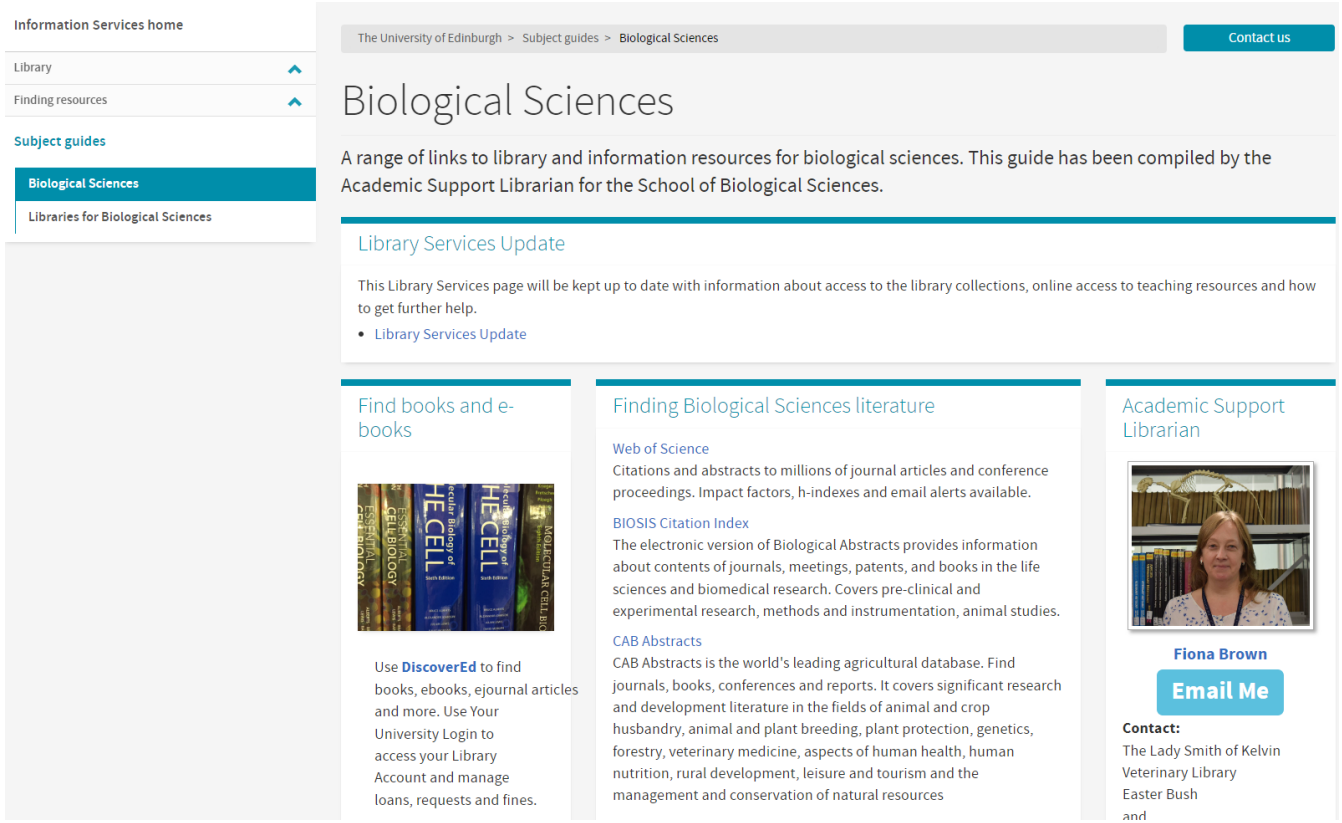
Where to find databases



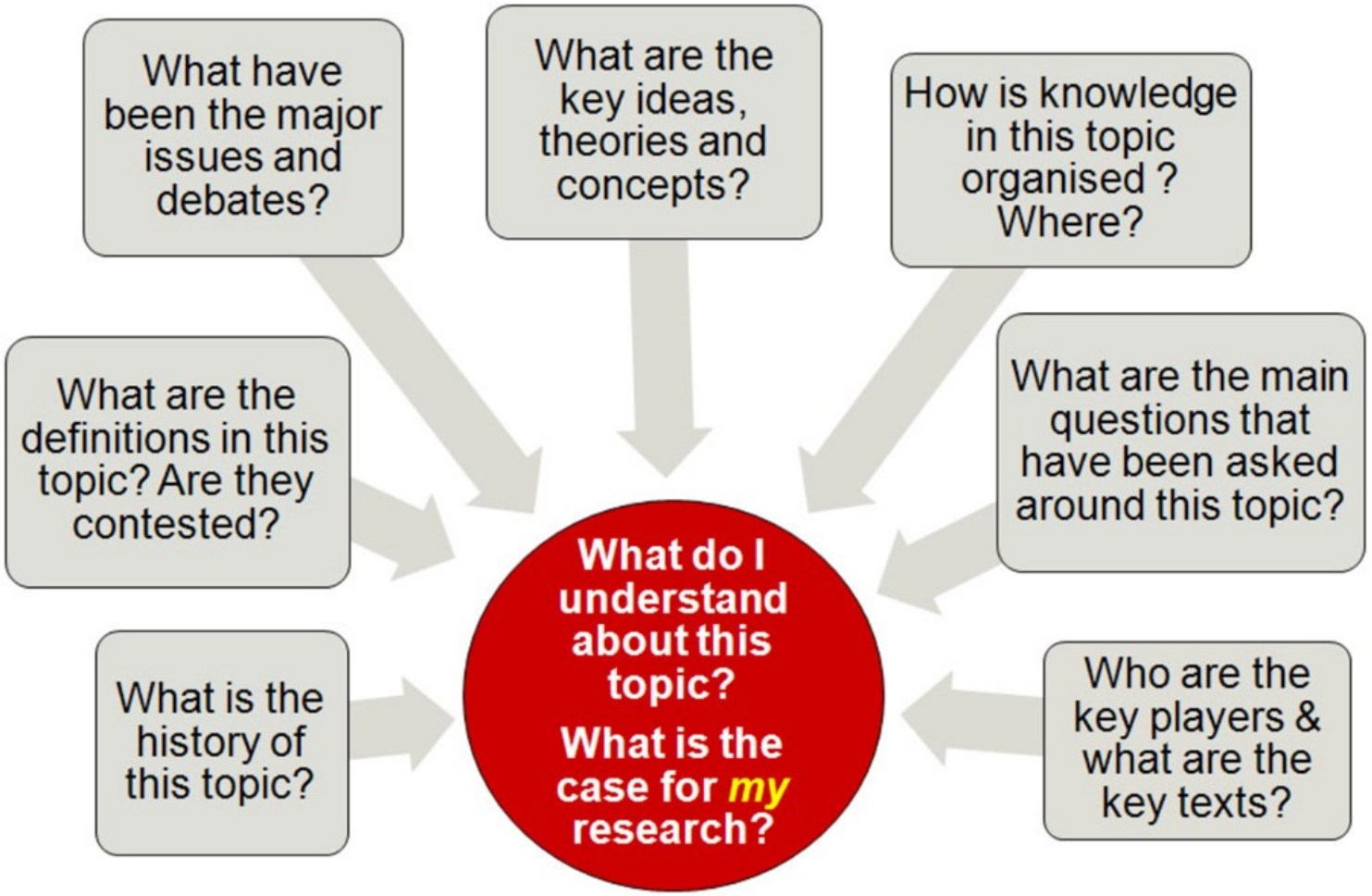


Subject guides

Subject guides can help you get the best from the library - they provide information such as how to find academic literature, how to referencing, and provide links to relevant tools and resources.



https://www.ed.ac.uk/is/subject-guides



Mewburn, I., *Hacking the Literature Review*. RMIT University. Accessed online Sep2012 URL: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1r_sIg1SFMoIh3E26-dg3aSR5xRap91iDkaijNVdx4Ds/edit?pli=1#slide=id.p

Conducting a literature search

Begin by thinking about your research/essay question:

"Does climate change have an impact on diseases of wildlife in the UK?"

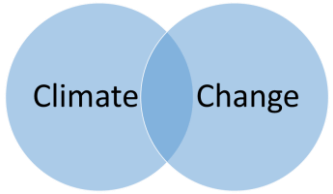
"Review the evidence base for the effects of woodland expansion on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the United Kingdom"

Next, structure your search:

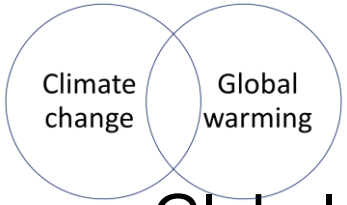
- Pick out the major search terms, e.g. climate change, diseases and wildlife.
- Think about synonyms, alternative spellings and related terms, e.g. what types of diseases are you interested in?
- Phrase searching can help retrieve more relevant results, e.g. "soil organic matter"
- Think about variations in terminology over time
- Use both abbreviations and full names: Royal Anthropological Institute/RAI
- Think about whether you want to use keywords or subject headings
- Pay attention to words which may have different meanings in different subject areas
- Think about how you want to combine the search terms

Use a bibliographic management tool – e.g. EndNote, Zotero.

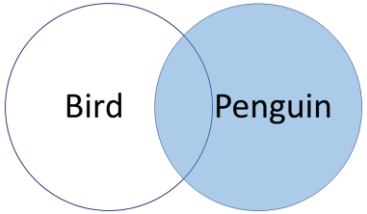
Search Techniques: Boolean operators



Climate **and** change



Climate change **or** Global warming



bird **not** penguin

AND increases the precision of your search and only retrieves records containing all the search terms.

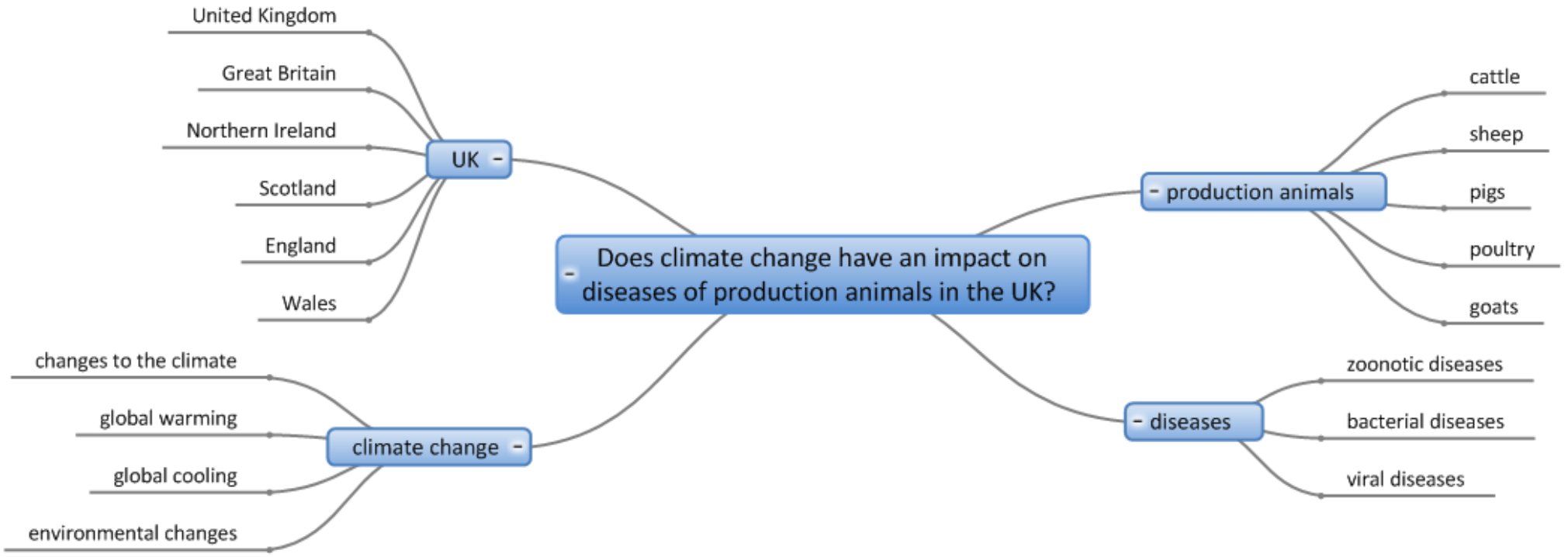
OR widens the scope of your search and retrieves records containing any of the search terms.

NOT excludes unwanted terms, but this should be used with caution as you may discard useful records.

Search Techniques

- Wildcards are special symbols that stand for one or more characters
- Wildcard symbols vary between systems
- The asterisk (*) is often used as a wildcard that can stand for any number of characters – e.g. enzym* will find enzyme, enzymes, enzymatic, etc.
- The question mark (?) is commonly used to represent a single character and it can be used to allow for spelling variations – e.g. wom?n will find women and woman, and behavio?r will retrieve behavior and behaviour
- Adjacency markers (adj*n* [CAB Abstracts, Medline, Global Health], NEAR/*n* [Web of Science], w/*n* [Scopus]) will find words within *n* of each other, in any order – e.g. climat* adj3 chang*

Search example



Question: Does climate change have an impact on the diseases of production animals in the United Kingdom?

Keywords: climate change, diseases, production animals

Search:

(cattle OR sheep OR pig* OR …

AND

(“climate change“ OR “global warm*” OR (climat* NEAR/3 chang*) OR …

AND

Diseas* OR …

These techniques help but at the start, keep it simple.

Published example – search strategy

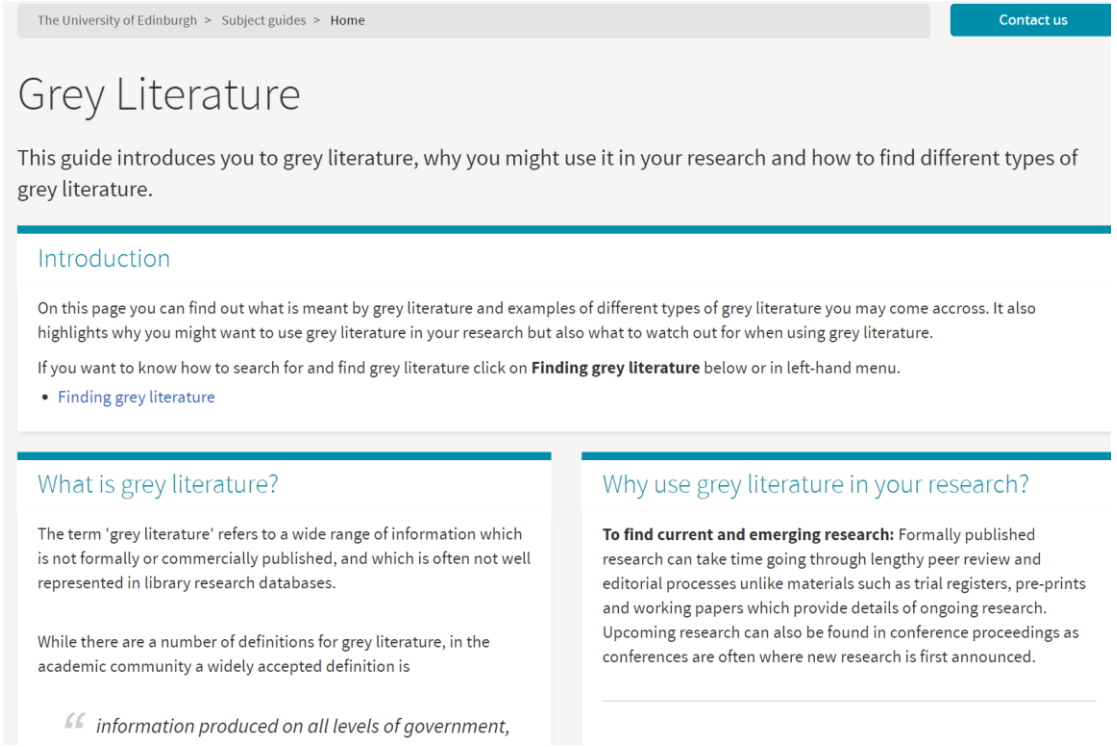
Database	Search Terms	Search Settings	Timespan
Web of Science	TS = ((woodland expansion OR "woodland restoration" OR "woodland planting" OR "forest expansion" OR "forest restoration" OR "afforestation" OR "woodland creation") **AND** (network OR corridor OR connect* OR buffer OR dispersal OR forag* OR "adjacent habitat*" OR "tree plant*" OR "tree species composition" OR "species composition" OR "stocking densit*" OR "planting method" OR size OR edge OR design OR "open space" OR glade OR ride OR soil OR management OR "post-planting" OR treat* OR weed* OR prun* OR thin* OR coppic* OR structur* OR spacing OR fell* OR "dead wood" OR (wet* OR water)) **AND** (change* OR effect* OR impact* OR benefit* OR establish* OR succes* OR fail* OR increas* OR declin* OR neutral OR "no effect*" OR function* OR service* OR synerg* OR "trade-off*" OR provisioning OR supporting OR regulating OR cultural OR scale OR time) **AND** (biodivers* OR species OR population* OR communit* OR ecosystem OR habitat* OR site* OR stand OR region* OR landscape* OR "ecosystem function*" OR "ecosystem service*" OR vegetation OR soil* OR nutrient* OR climate OR "carbon sequestration" OR "carbon storage" OR flood* OR "water quality" OR timber OR farm* OR agricultur* OR agro* OR crop* OR peat* OR recreation* OR aesthetic* OR health OR hunt* OR shoot*) **AND** ("open habitat*" OR habitat* OR bog OR heath* OR grassland OR grass* OR forest* OR wood*))	Refined to: Web of Science Core Collection and BIOSIS Collection. Region refined to UK, United Kingdom, England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, North Ireland. Sorted by relevance	All years (1864-2016)

Burton, V, et al (2018) Reviewing the evidence base for the effects of woodland expansion on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the United Kingdom, Forest Ecology and Management, 430, 366-379. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2018.08.003

‘Grey’ literature

Sources of literature which may be considered unpublished, or non-standard academic literature, e.g. theses and technical reports. This can also include reports from governments, NGOs, professional bodies and other organisations.

The Library has a list of resources which can help you find grey literature:



Library subject guide: https://edinburgh-uk.libguides.com/grey-literature

Databases for grey literature: https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/library-museum-gallery/finding-resources/library-databases/databases-subject-a-z/grey-literature

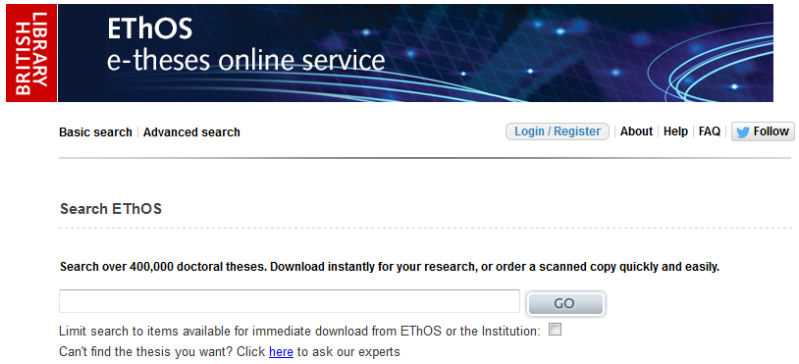
Theses

ERA – full text of UoEd theses

ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global

Access information:	Access on and off campus.
Description:	Millions of searchable citations to worldwide dissertation and theses. Around 70,000 new dissertations and theses added annually.
Coverage:	Simple bibliographic citations are available for dissertations dating from 1637. Each dissertation published since July, 1980 includes a 350-word abstract written by the author. Master's theses published since 1988 include 150-word abstracts.
Full-text:	1997 to date, with selected coverage from earlier years. Full text for certain publications is subject to market availability.
Note:	Index to Theses has been asbsorbed into this product since January 2015.

EThOS – full text of some UK theses



https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/library-museum-gallery/finding-resources/library-databases/databases-subject-a-z/database-theses or https://edin.ac/2J4uZd2

Lots of other resources …

Have a look at the Library's subject guides for information on other online resources, e.g.

- **LinkedInLearning:**

LinkedIn Learning is on an online skills development service offering an extensive library of high quality video courses in digital, technology, creative and business skills.

https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/help-consultancy/is-skills/linkedin-learning

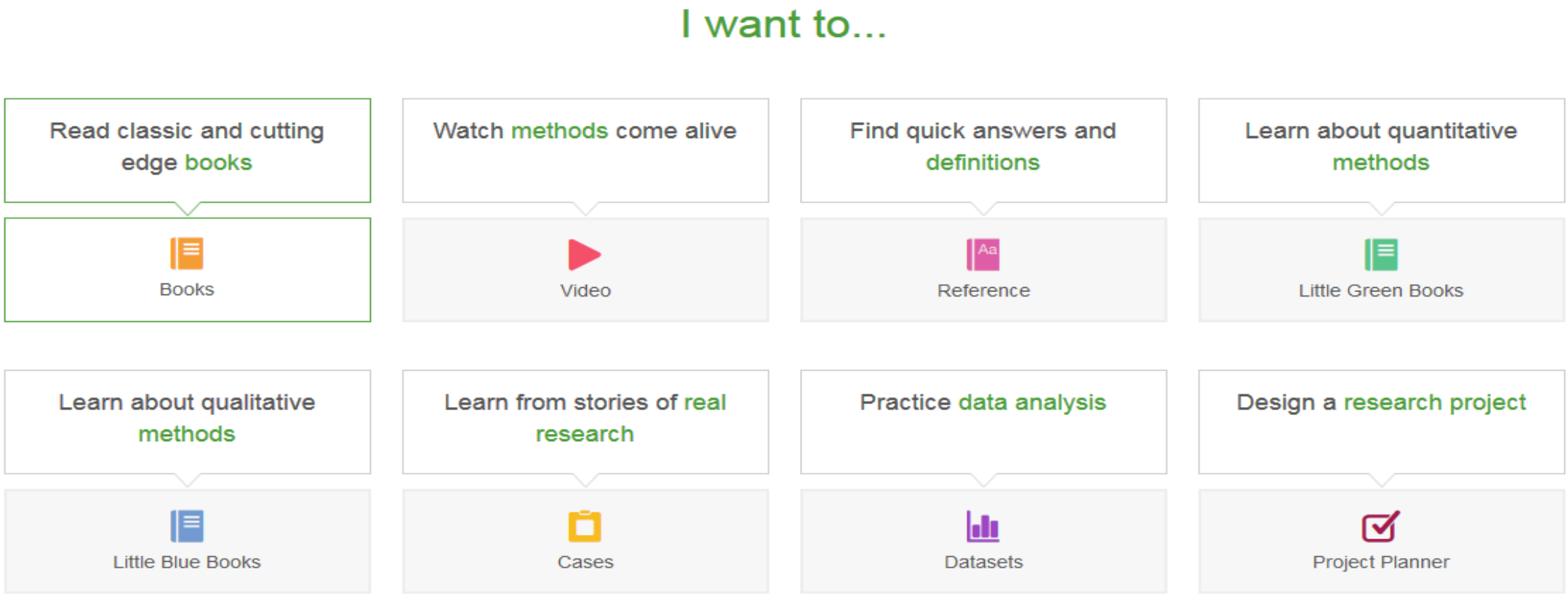
- **Henry Stewart Talks:**

Over 3000 specially commissioned seminar style talks by leading world experts. Format is animated slides with synchronized narration.

http://ezproxy.lib.ed.ac.uk/login?url=http://www.hstalks.com/access

SAGE Research Methods

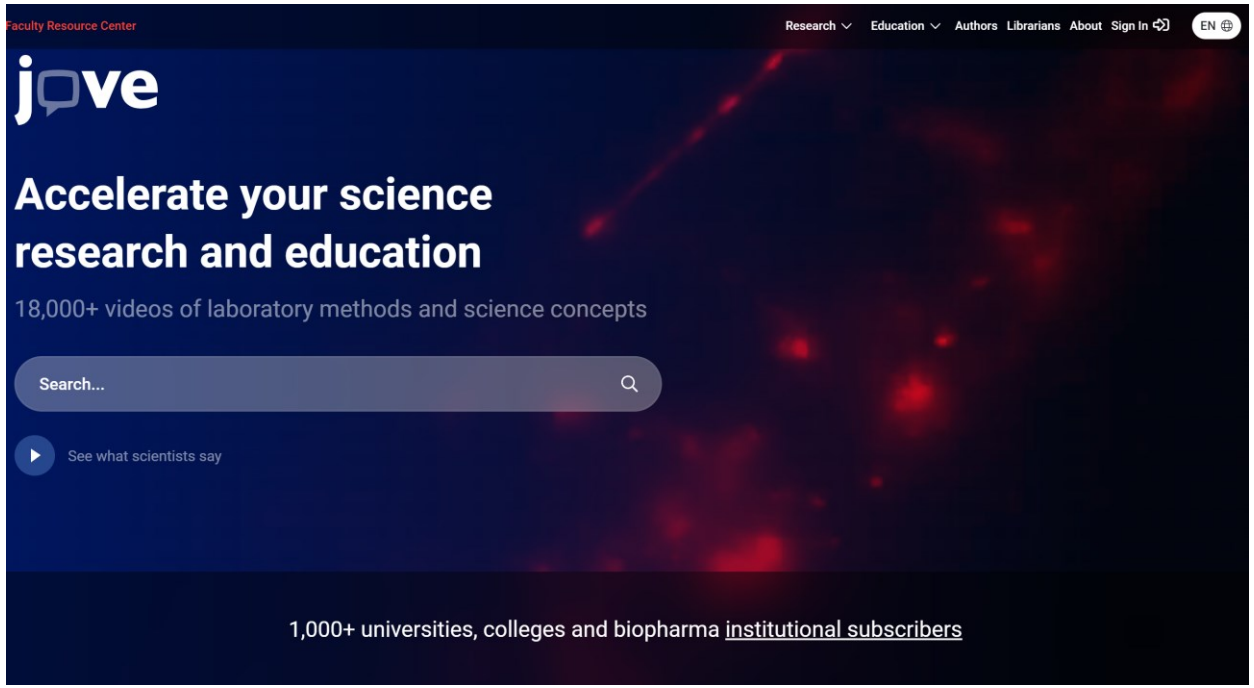
https://methods-sagepub-com.ezproxy.is.ed.ac.uk/



Journal of Visualized Experiments

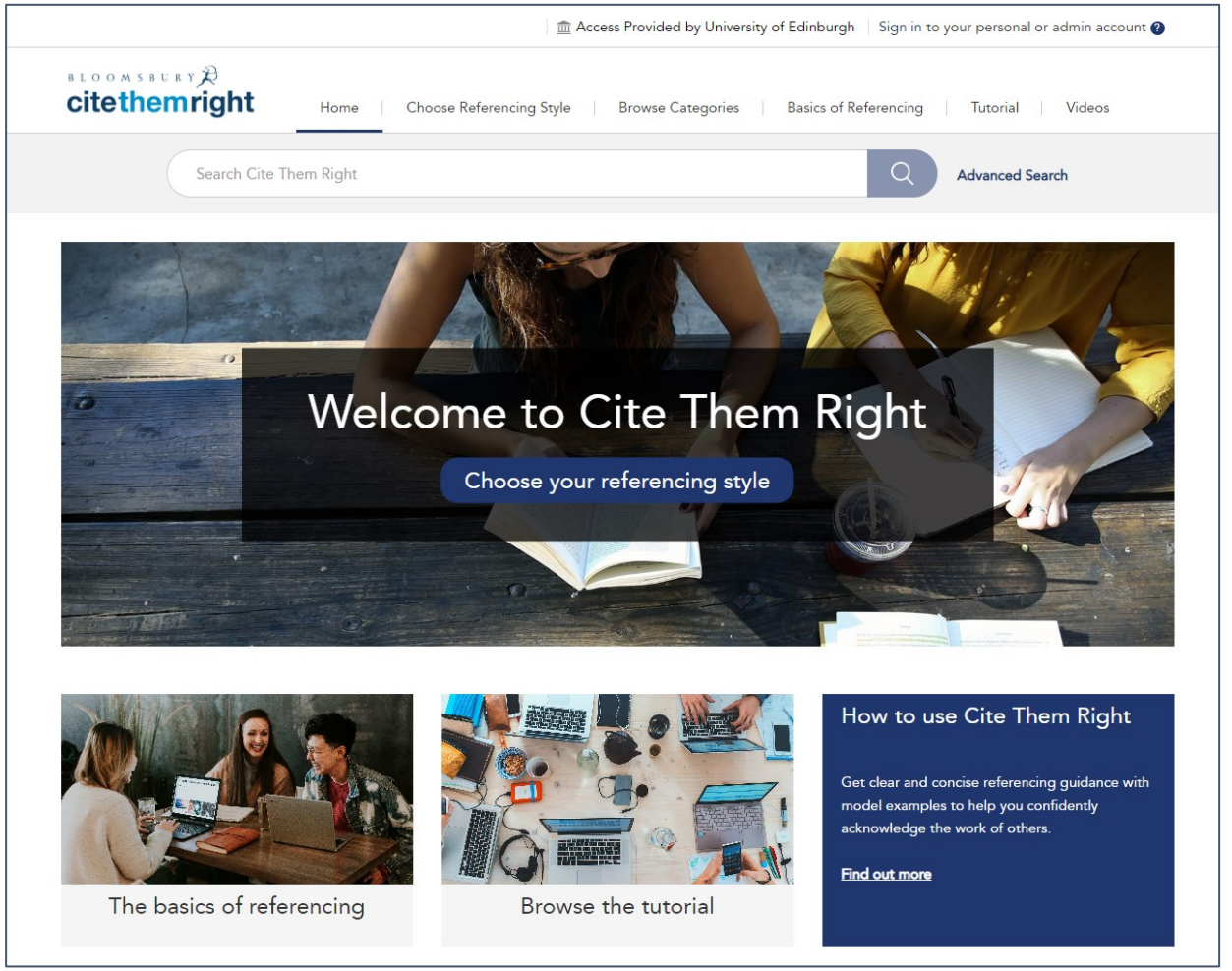
https://www-jove-com.ezproxy.is.ed.ac.uk/

- The Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE) is a peer-reviewed scientific video journal showing scientific techniques.
- JoVE aims to ‘increase the productivity of research’.
- We have access to JoVE unlimited, including:
    - JoVE Journal
    - JoVE Science Education

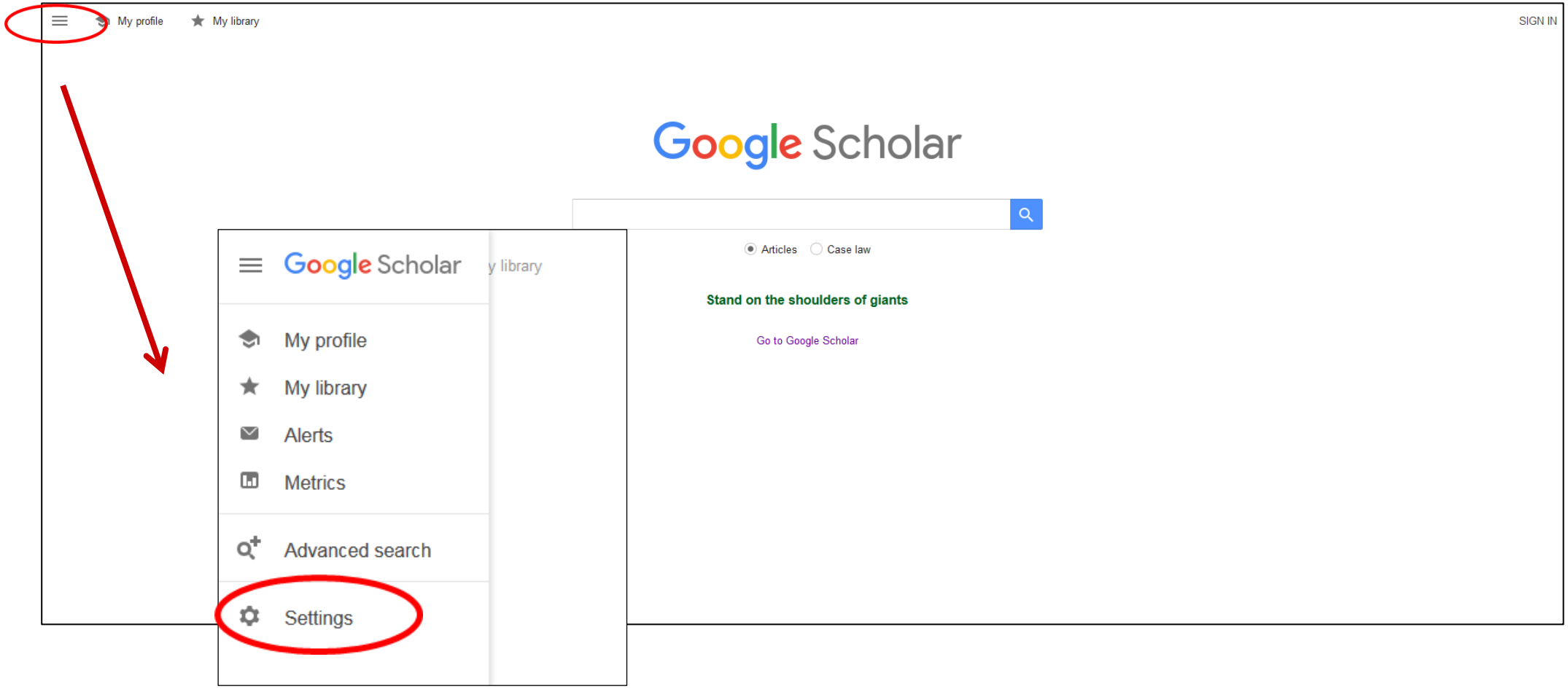


Cite Them Right Online

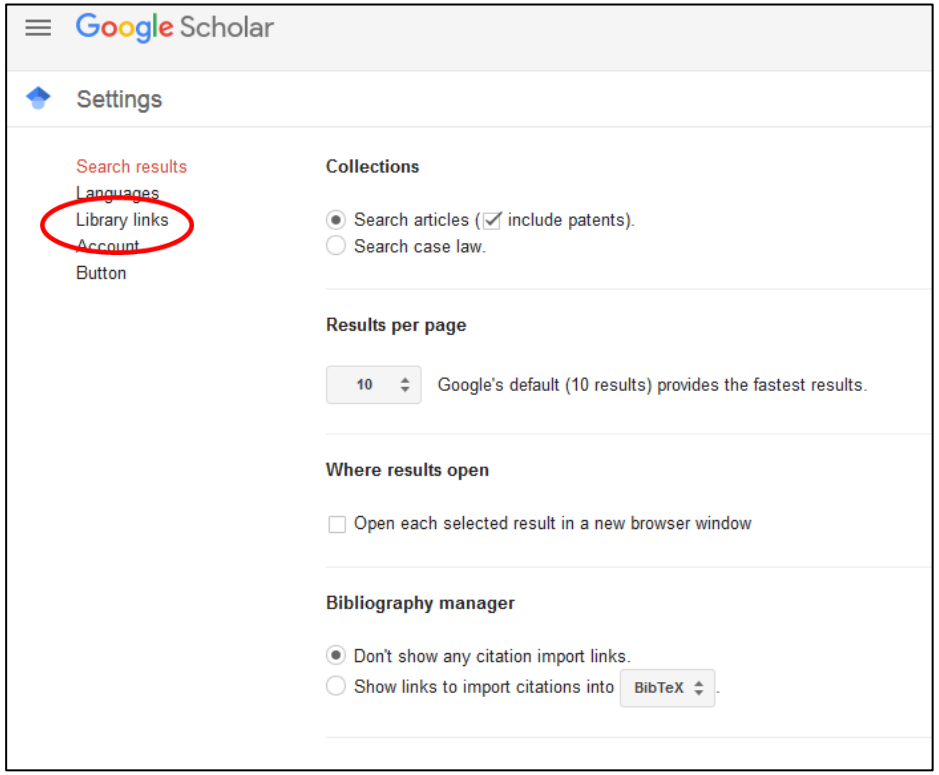
https://www-citethemrightonline-com.ezproxy.is.ed.ac.uk/

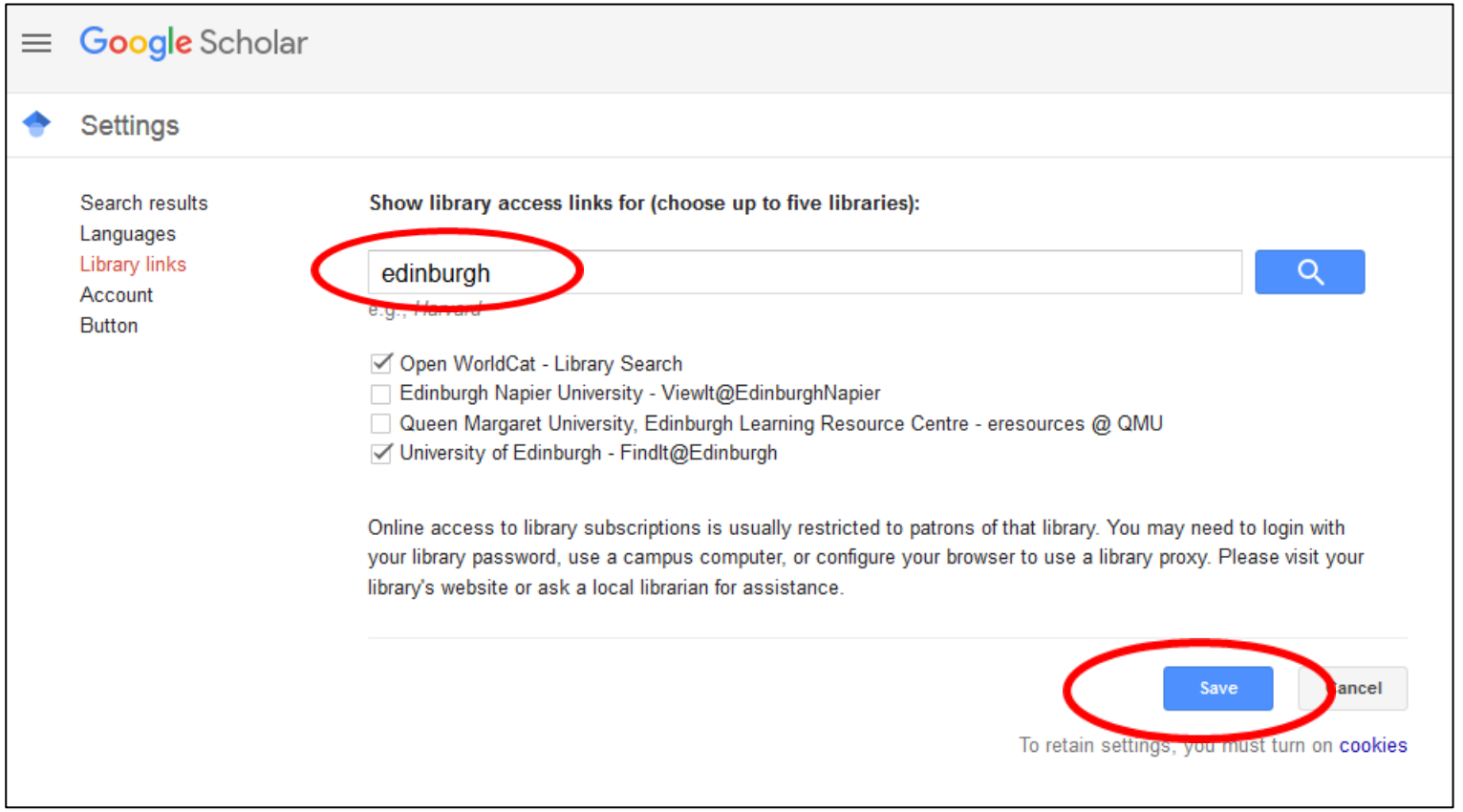


Accessing our resources on Google Scholar

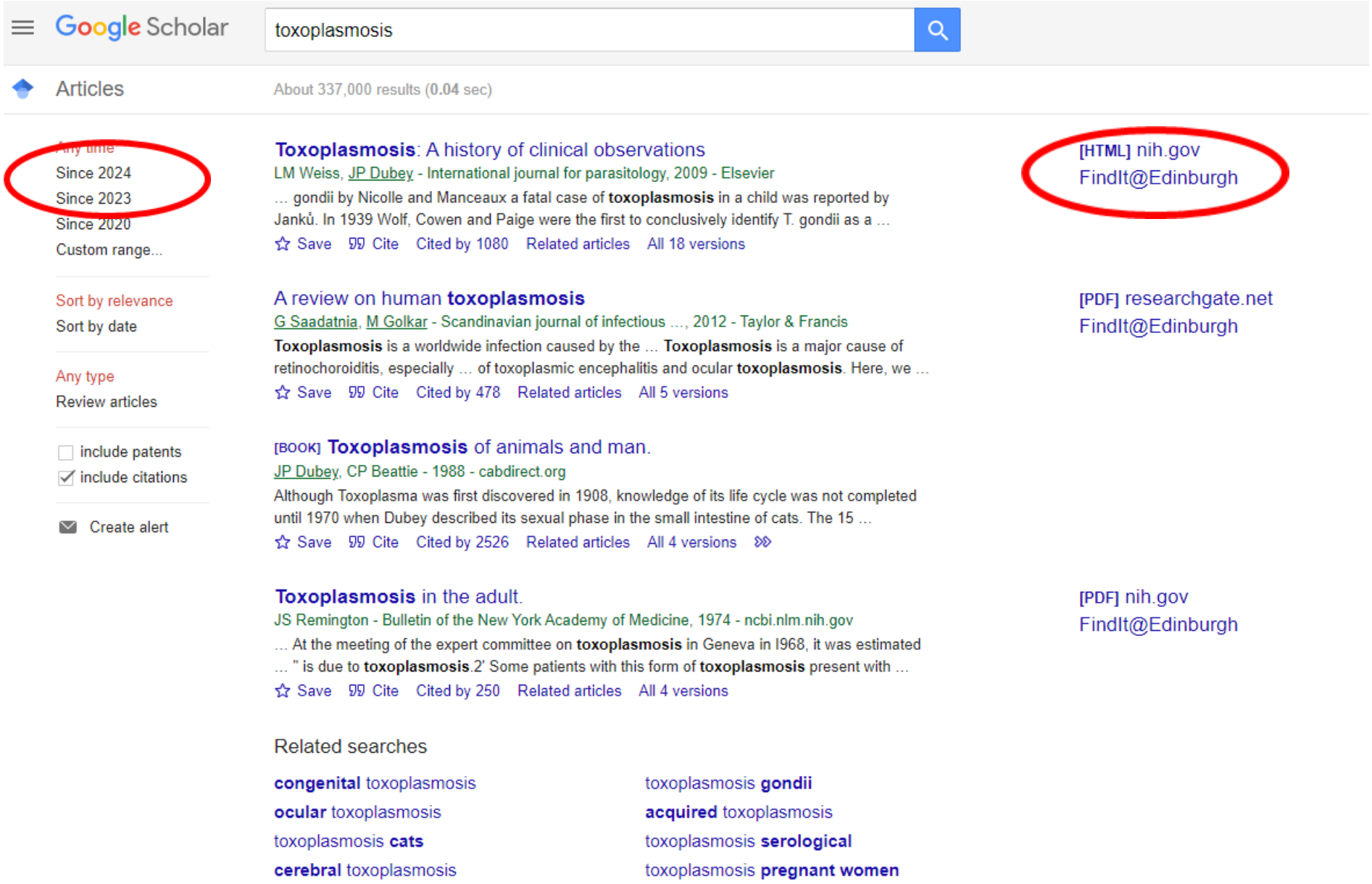


Accessing our resources on Google Scholar

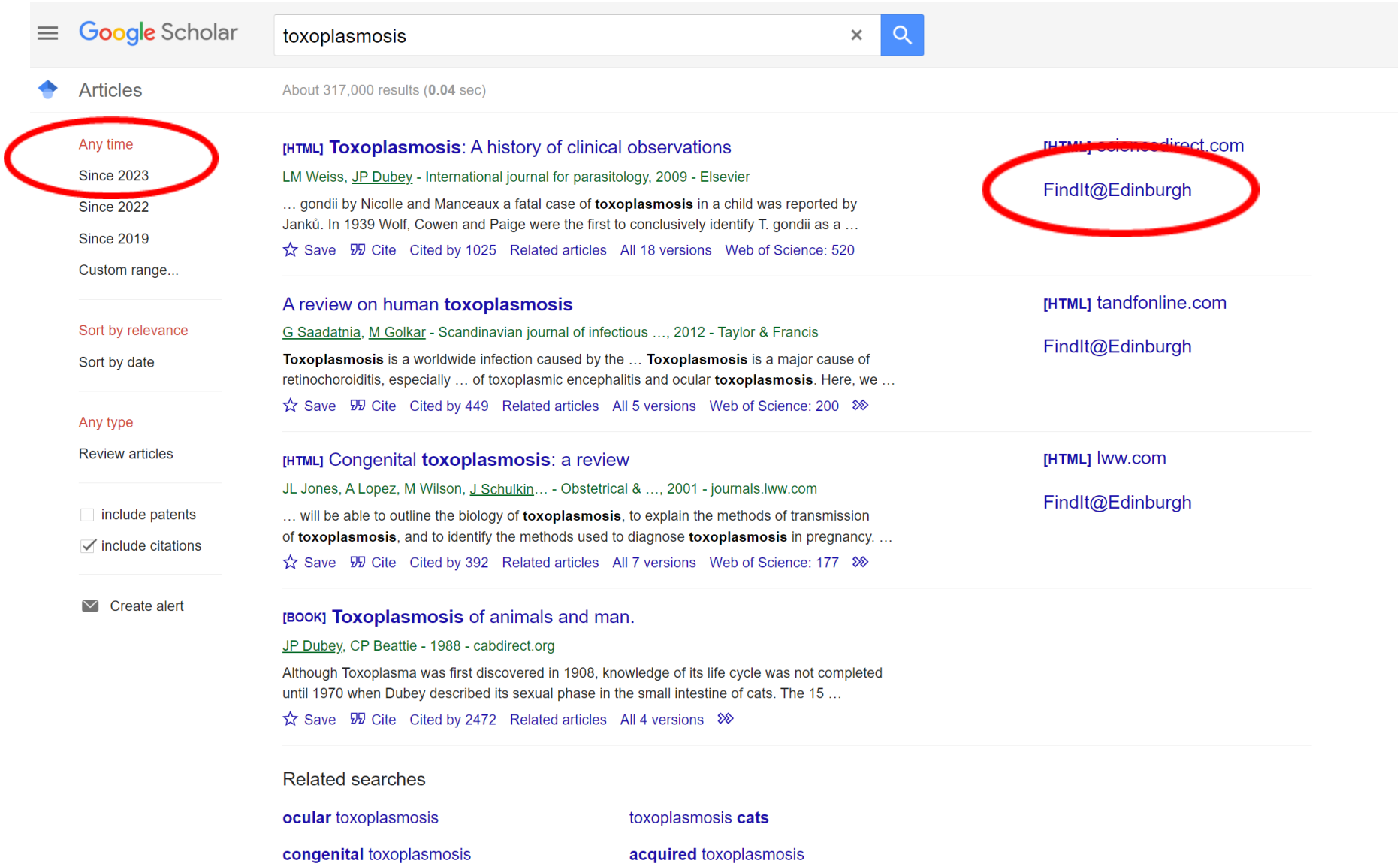




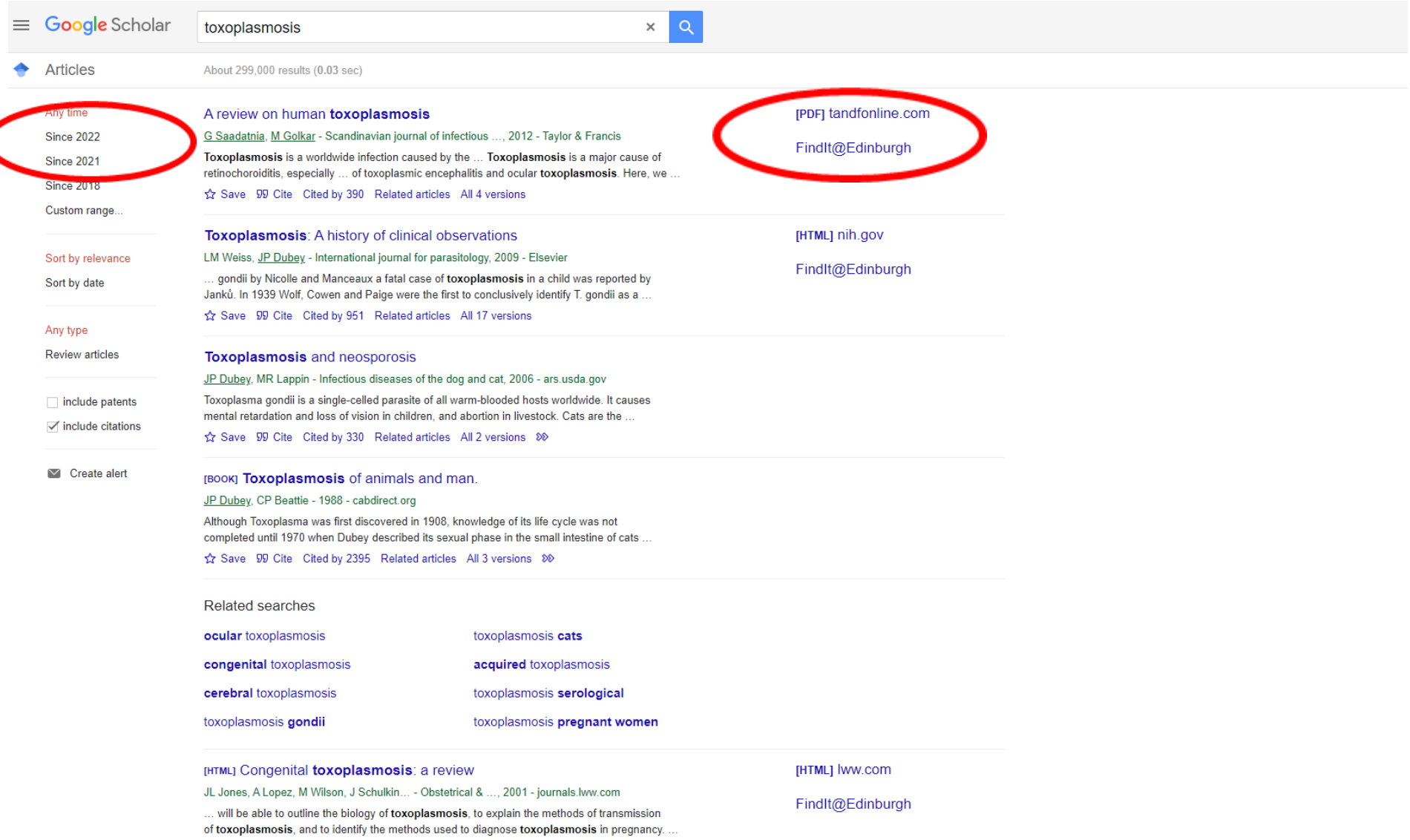
Accessing our resources on Google Scholar



Google Scholar search result for 2023



Google Scholar search result for 2022



If you have problems with remote access

- Sometimes you may get an error message when trying to access a library resource – this doesn't happen often!

- If you do, look for 'Institutional login' or 'Shibboleth'
- Select 'UK Access Management Federation' (or it may be a similar term such as 'UK Federation')
- Then select 'University of Edinburgh'

http://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/library-museum-gallery/using-library/accessing-eresources/eresources-access

If the Library doesn’t have what you need

We’ll aim to get it for you

Request a Book Service www.ed.ac.uk/is/RAB

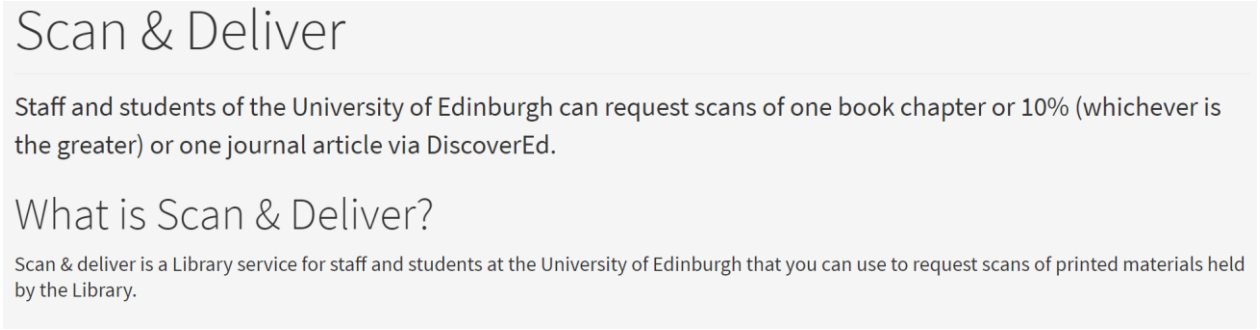
- We will try to buy the book for the Library
- e-book preference means we’ll buy the e-book if it’s available

Interlibrary Loans www.ed.ac.uk/is/ILL

- To obtain material not held by the Library
- Scans (e.g. journal articles, book chapters) are sent to you by email
- Physical items can be collected from your chosen library

If the Library doesn't have what you need

Scan & Deliver
www.ed.ac.uk/is/scan-and-deliver

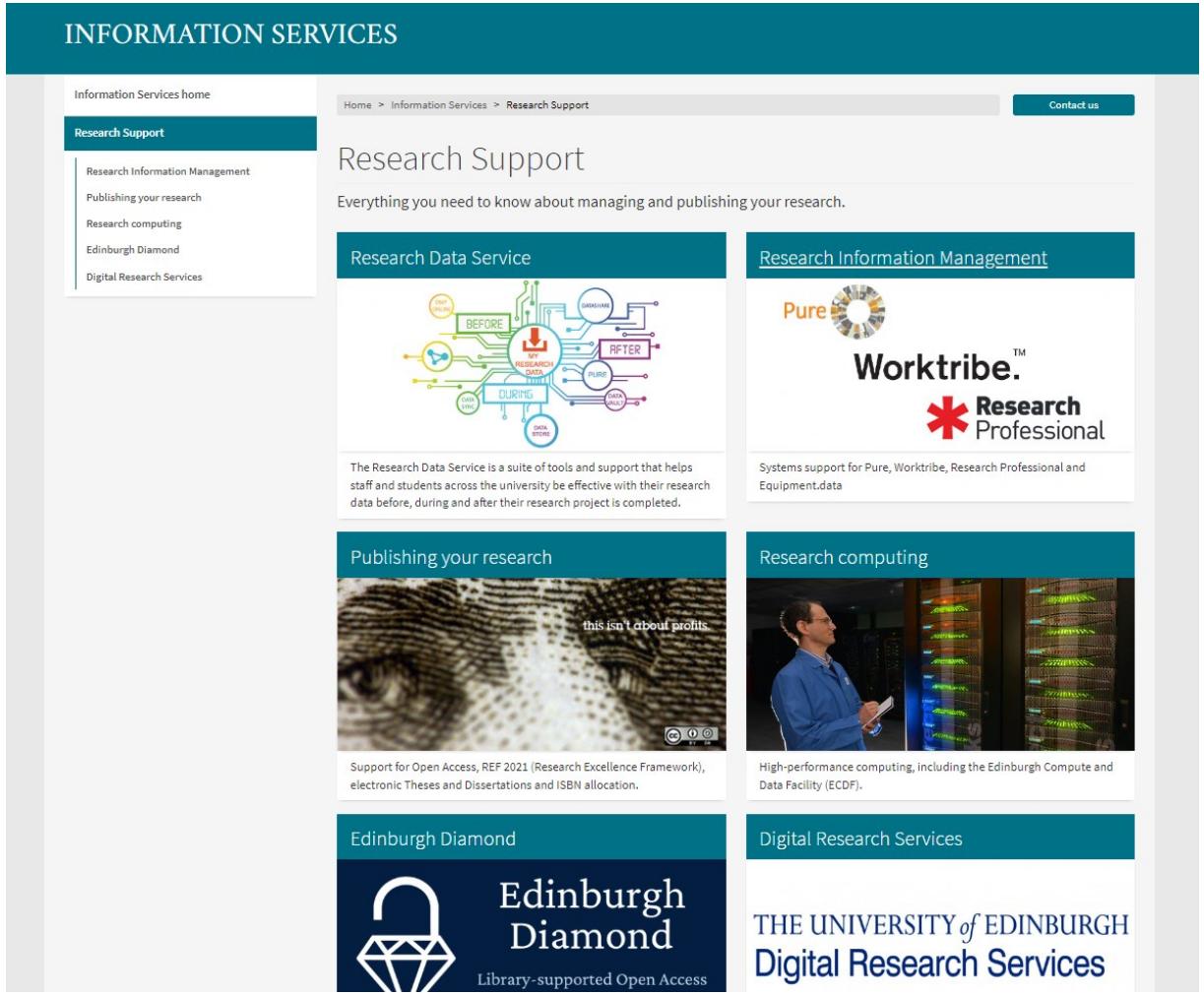


This service provides online access to scanned book chapters and journal articles within copyright limits

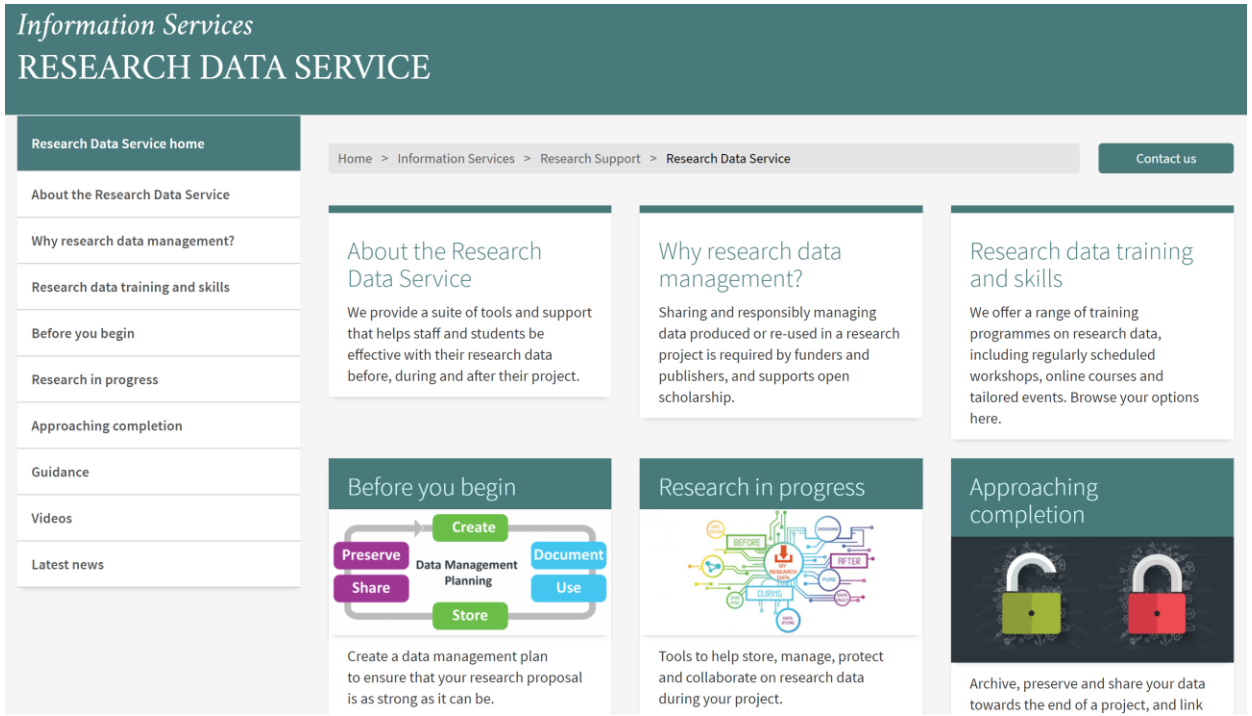
- Requests will be placed via DiscoverEd (Sign-In needed)
- Note - there are some limitations due to copyright restrictions

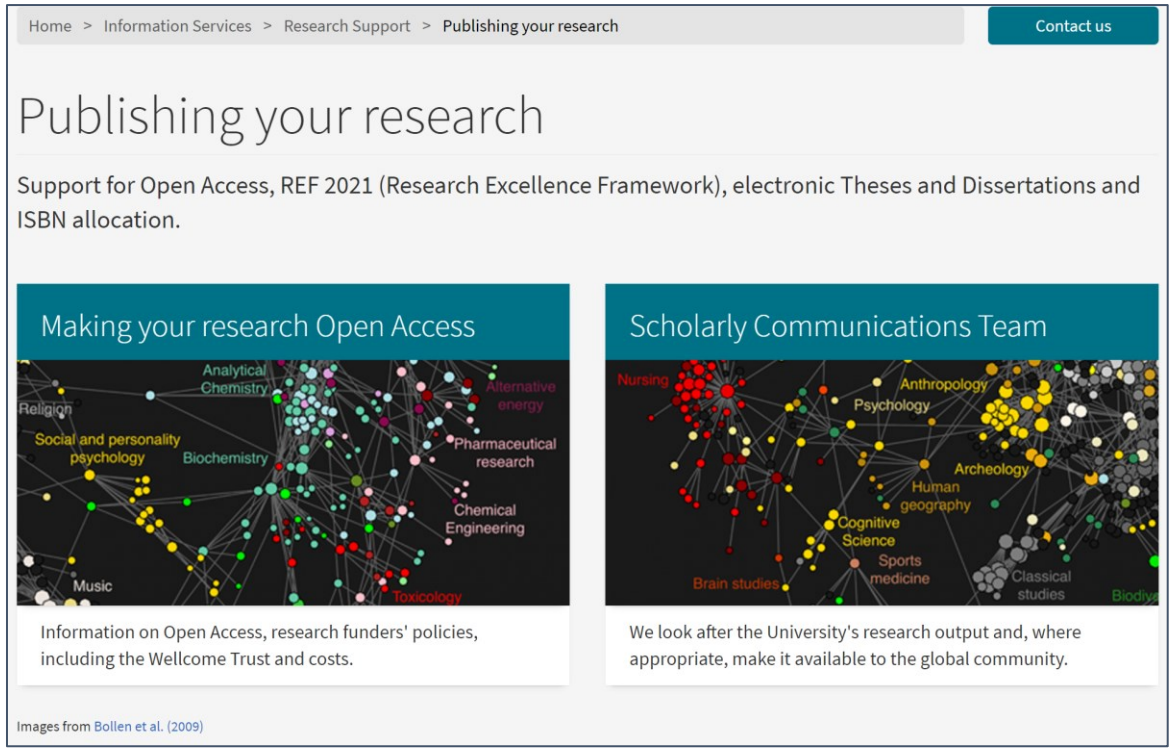
Other Information Services Support

http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/research-support



Other Information Services Support





http://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/research-support/data-management

http://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/research-support/publish-research

Reference Management software

- EndNote can be added to your own laptop/pc [not Maths, Physics, Informatics]
- Use to construct and manage a database of references
- Plug-in to use with Word
- Can import references from a variety of different sources
- Free software also available, e.g. Zotero, Mendeley
- Comparison table: http://www.docs.is.ed.ac.uk/mvm/BiblioManagersTable.pdf?t=1319975641nt/library/downloads/refworks/Biblio.pdf
- Courses available through Information Services and IAD
  - Digital Skills and Training: http://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/help-consultancy/is-skills
- Summary: https://edinburgh-uk.libguides.com/referencing

Where to get information and help

- Academic Support Librarians:
  http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/asl

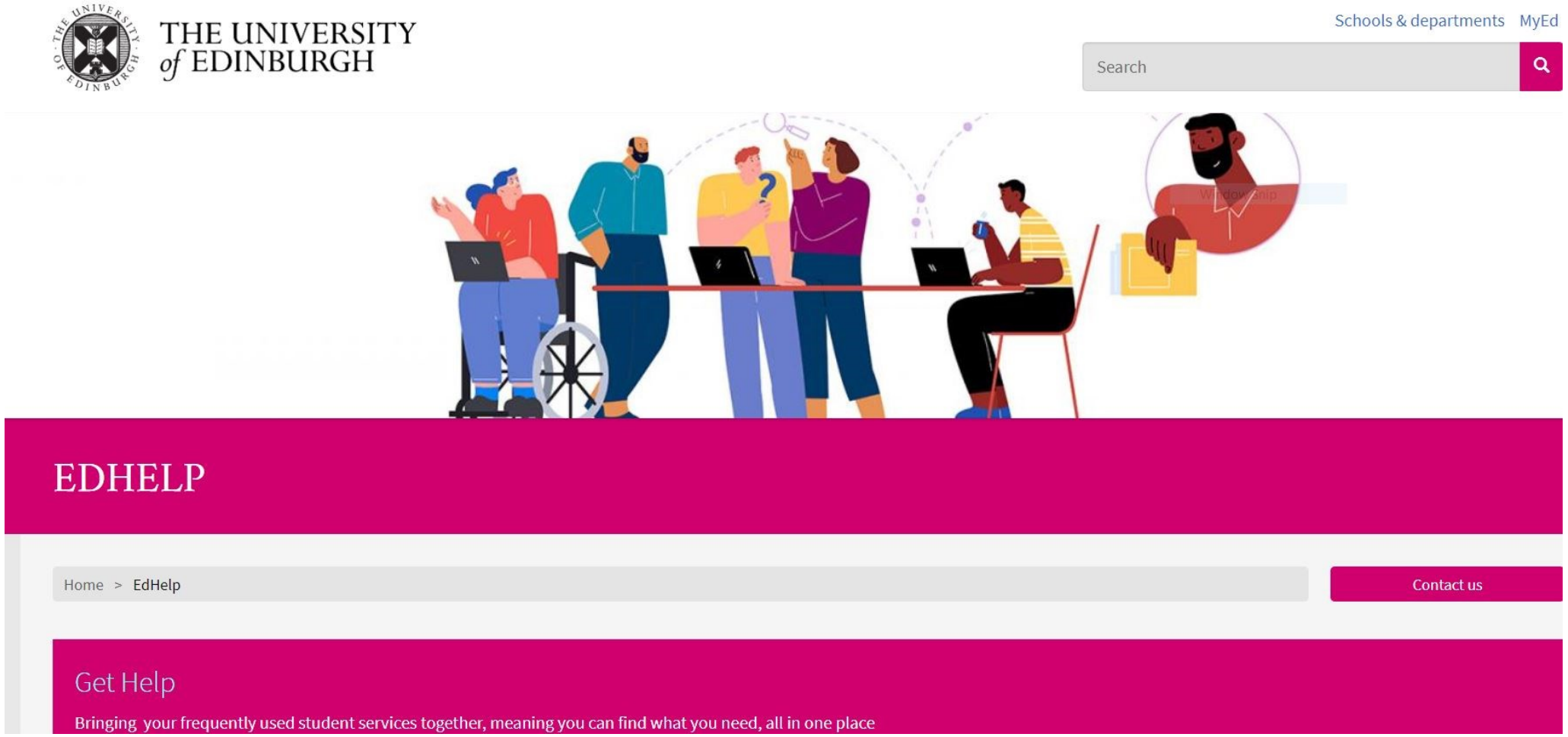
- Online guides for all subject areas:
  https://www.ed.ac.uk/is/subject-guides

- Online help
  http://www.ed.ac.uk/edhelp

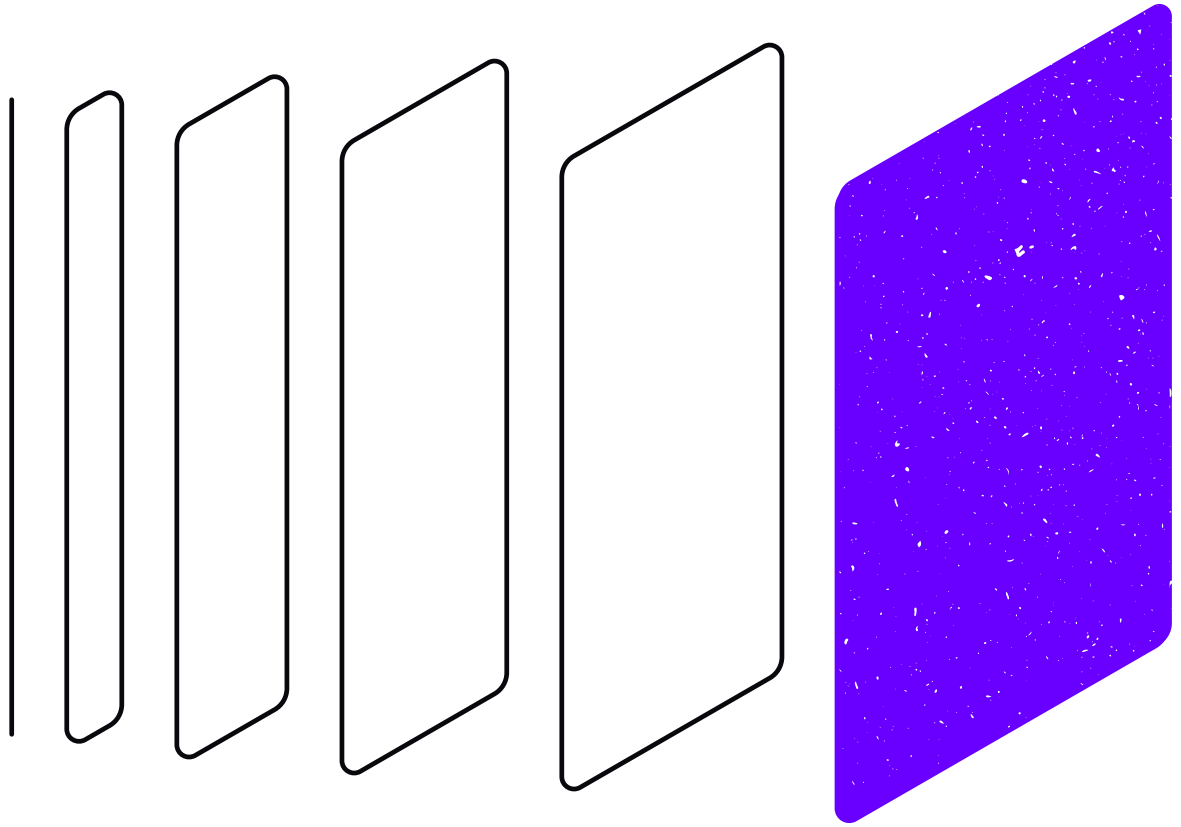
Photo: UoE image collection

EdHelp

https://www.ed.ac.uk/edhelp



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Library

Thank you

www.ed.ac.uk/is/asl