Doing Your Undergraduate Project

Appendix 9: Databases

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The Internet provides information on virtually the whole of recorded human knowledge. Much of this is organised in databases dedicated to specific subjects, types of publications, or materials targeted at specified interest groups. These databases are compiled and maintained by specialists in the particular fields covered and access to them is controlled. Your university library will normally be able to provide you with access to a reasonable selection of them, depending upon the fees and conditions imposed by the operating body. Access to many databases is controlled by password and there are usage fees to be paid. Your university will subscribe to several and this will cover use by registered members of the university.

Databases that could be the source of useful information for your project are given below but this list is far from exhaustive. The details given here include the national coverage, the main language of the content, format of entries, types of publications covered, time period covered, and subject coverage. The library staff will be able to give you more detailed information on which databases are available and explain how to formulate effective searches. As many databases have their own search engines and search techniques, it is best to use your university library subject specialists for advice and guidance in their use. Therefore, the search engines and techniques for the databases listed here have not been included.

BATH INFORMATION AND DATA SERVICES (BIDS)

International; mainly English; bibliographic details from journals, abstracts; 1981 onwards; multi-disciplinary

BRITISH EDUCATION INDEX (BEI)

UK; English; abstracts, journal literature from 1976, British theses from 1950; all aspects of education.

BRITISH HUMANITIES INDEX (BHI)

Mainly UK; English; 320+ journals and magazines, newspapers – UK and US; 1962 onwards; art, business, culture, literature, motion pictures, politics.

BUSINESS SOURCE PREMIER

International; English; abstracts, full text, images; 3,300 English language business journals; 1990 onwards; subject coverage includes accounting, business education, business law, economic development, management, marketing, public administration.

COMPASS – The British Museum (BM)

International; English; images and accompanying text of 5,000 objects in the BM collection; architecture, art, design, history.

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CONTEMPORARY AUTHORS

International; English, French; indexes, full text; books, journals, medial adaptations; 1819–1994; 100,000 modern authors including novelists, poets, screenwriters, non-fiction writers, literature.

DATASTREAM

International; English; statistical, graphical; share price data on all UK quoted companies and some on companies in EU countries, USA, Canada, Australia, South Africa, and some Far Eastern countries.

DESIGN AND APPLIED ARTS INDEX (DAAI)

International; English; abstracts; over 500 design and craft journals; 1973 onwards; coverage includes architecture, art, design, fashion, graphic design, interior design, jewellery, packaging, textile fabrics, typography, and vehicle design and construction.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA SERVICE (ESDS) International International; English; statistical data; major international statistical datasets from IMF, OECD, UN, World Bank; 1960 onwards; statistical data.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ABSTRACTS (ERA)

International; English; abstracts; selects abstracts from seven major abstracting journals that cover over 500 journals; 1995 onwards; coverage includes educational systems, and school management and organisation.

EDUCATION RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

USA; English; abstracts; over 100,000 full text non-journal documents issued between 1993 and 2004, and more than 1,000,000 citations; 1966 onwards; coverage includes adult education, education research, educational psychology, teaching.

EMERALD Fulltext

MCB Press journals; English; abstracts, full text; 130 academic and professional journals; 1989 onwards; 130 titles; coverage includes economics, engineering, hospitality, library science, personnel management, training.

EMERALD Reviews

International; English; abstracts; more than 150 leading management journals from around the world; 1988 onwards; all aspects of management including marketing, human resource, hospitality and tourism, information management.

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EUROPE IN THE ROUND

54 European countries; English; current; full text, statistical and graphical material, images; statistics, maps, photographs; audio materials, text; coverage includes business, economics, econometrics, statistics, leisure and tourism.

FAME

UK and Ireland; English; full text, statistical and graphical material; data on 1.3 million UK and Irish companies; 1994 onwards; coverage includes business enterprises, corporation reports, finance, marketing.

SAGE researchmethods

FILM INDEX INTERNATIONAL

English-speaking countries; English; indexes, statistical material; over 100,000 films indexed, biographical information on 40,000 personalities; 1930 onwards; actors, directors, motion pictures, theatrical producers and directors. Regarded as the definitive online resource on entertainment films and personalities.

GLOBAL MARKET INFORMATION DATABASE (GMID).

International; English; full text, statistics; market analysis reports, consumer lifestyle reports; 1977 onwards; includes general economic and demographic statistics for over 200 countries, market data for consumer products, economic and market forecasts.

GROVE ART ONLINE

International; English; indexes, images; articles, biographies, country surveys, links to images from galleries and museums worldwide; architecture, art, artists, photography.

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM INDEX

North American and International; English; abstracts; journal articles, books, case studies, conference proceedings; 1965 onwards; hospitality and tourism.

IMAGES OF ENGLAND

UK; English; images, text; to cover 370,000 images of listed buildings; architecture.

INDEX TO THESES

UK and Ireland; English; abstracts, index; higher degree theses accepted by universities in UK and Ireland; 1716 onwards; 479,162 theses.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (IBSS) International; 70% in English; abstracts, indexes; journals, books; 1951 onwards; economic development.

INTERNATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE (FIAF)

SSAGE research**methods**

International; English; abstracts, indexes; 300 journals; 1972 onwards; motion pictures, television.

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MOVING IMAGE GATEWAY

International; English; moving images, images; collects websites that relate to moving and audio images; multi-disciplinary.

NATIONAL STATISTICS ONLINE

UK; English; full text, statistical; UK official statistics including press releases, time series data and National Statistics publications; UK statistics.

OXFORD DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY

UK; English; full text, images; up to 2001 – includes only dead individuals from or connected with the British Isles; over 50,000 biographies.

SCRAN

International; English; images; 325,000 images, video clips and audio files from 250 international collections in museums, galleries, archives and the media; architecture, art and design, social studies, tourism.

SOCIAL SCIENCES CITATION INDEX (SSCI)

International; English; abstracts, indexes; 1,700 social sciences journal, plus relevant articles from 3,300 other journals; 1981 onwards; coverage includes anthropology, criminology, information science, marketing, planning, women's studies.

SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION GATEWAY (SOSIG)

Internet-based service of selected information; an online database of thousands of proven quality Internet resources each selected by a librarian or academic.

SSAGE researchmethods

SPORT AND LEISURE INDEX

International; English; abstracts, indexes; journals and magazines; 1986 onwards; biomechanics, leisure, sport.

SPORT DISCUS

International; English, French; abstracts; journals; 1974 onwards; dance, physiology, recreation, sports sciences.

STUDIES ON WOMEN AND GENDER ABSTRACTS ONLINE

International; English; abstracts; journals, books; 1995 onwards; coverage includes education, employment, history, social policy, sociology.

TATE ONLINE

UK; English; full text, images; digitised images of contemporary and British art; art.

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UK DATA ARCHIVE

UK; English; statistical material; holds the largest collection of digital data in the social sciences in the UK, houses a major collection of computerised historical material; social sciences, statistical data.

UNITED KINGDOM OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS (UKOP)

UK; English; indexes, full text; publications of Parliament, government departments, government-funded bodies and public corporations; 1980 onwards; legislation, political science, politics.

WEB OF KNOWLEDGE (WoK)

International; English; abstracts, citations; journals, reports, conference proceedings, books; 1981 for SCI, SSCI and AHCI, 1990 for ISTP; multi-disciplinary. Provides access

to Science Citation Index, Social Sciences Citation Index, Arts and Humanities Citation Index, and Index to Scientific and Technical Proceedings.

WORLD ADVERTISING RESEARCH CENTER (WARC)

International; English; abstracts; full text, statistics; journals, conferences papers, case studies, abstracts from other publications; coverage includes business news, consumer research, demography, econometrics, market research.

ZETOC

International; English; indexes; 20,000 journals and 16,000 conference proceedings are scanned annually; 1993 onwards; research. The database includes 15 million article and conference records.