Quick-Start Guide to Library Research

Library Home Page
http://go.middlebury.edu/lib (go/lib)

Key Finding Aids

1. **Catalog**: MIDCAT is our online catalog. It contains records of almost every book, periodical, recording, and recent government document owned by Middlebury College libraries. SEARCH BY TITLE of a book, journal or magazine to learn if Middlebury owns a particular work, and where it is located. SEARCH BY SUBJECT OR KEYWORD to identify books about a particular topic.

2. **Articles**: This searches Academic Onefile, a database that contains scholarly journals and magazines. To switch to another database, for example *Web of Science* or *PsycINFO*, click on the “Databases A-Z” link.

3. **Journals A-Z**: This tool pulls together the libraries’ journal holdings in every format (electronic, print, and microfilm). It is the easiest way to locate entire journals, magazines, and newspapers.

4. **Research Guides**: When you don’t know where to begin, use these!

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Email Reference Librarians at rlibrary@middlebury.edu or find us in person (consult go/askalibrarian for hours).
Steps for Finding a Journal Article

1. Search one of the research databases – *Academic OneFile, Web of Science, PsycINFO* etc..
2. Look for a link to the article (Middlebury Links, Find at Middlebury, Link to Fulltext, etc.)
3. If not fulltext or if “direct linking not available”, continue to step 4.
4. Capture the bibliographic information (i.e., citation), as shown below.
5. Check the “Journals A-Z” list (in “Library Quick Search”) to see if we have the journal at Middlebury. IMPORTANT: you must search the journals list for the *journal* title!
6. If it’s not available at Middlebury, request it through Inter-Library Loan (ILL).

How to Interpret a Journal Citation

Look at the following citation and notice the **bibliographic information** given: author, title, journal name, volume, issue, date, pages:


**Full-Text vs. Citation only**

Some databases provide the full-text of the articles, while others only provide a citation (i.e. bibliographic information) and/or abstract (article summary). For the latter, you will need to determine whether Middlebury subscribes to the journal, then retrieve it.

In the example below, you have searched Academic OneFile and found a citation. You clicked the “Link to full-text outside this database” link. The Library server pops up with the direct access services we offer to get you to the article. In this case: (1) online through the EBSCOhost, (2) MIDCAT (which takes you to print, microform, and/or a book chapter, (3) interlibrary loan through NExpress (1st choice) and ILLiad (2nd choice).

**Tip:**
To get this popup, look for links or buttons labeled:
- Middlebury Links
- Find at Middlebury
- Link to fulltext etc.