Search Tips

Find a book when you know the author or the title

To find any book when you know the author or title, search for it using GalterSearch on the library website.

1. Use either the Search Box in the website banner or click Search in the main menu, and go from there. Both options will produce the same results.
2. For a search by title, enter the first few words of the title in the search box, choose "in the title" from the Search which fields? drop-down and click Search.
3. For a search by author, enter the last name of the author name in the search box, choose "in author/creator" from the Search which fields? drop-down and click Search.
4. If you do an exact title or author search, you will probably find the book you want quickly. If you still have a lot of results, use the Narrow your search by options on the right-side of the results page to limit to books, author, online, etc.
5. A keyword search looks for either words in the title or the broad subject area for the book you’re seeking. It does not search inside the book. For searches across a collection of books, use a book collection such as Access Medicine, MD Consult, Stat!Ref or Books@Ovid.

You can borrow any available book at the Galter Library or other Chicago campus libraries with your WildCARD or library card. Circulation policies vary from library to library. If the book you want is available at an Evanston campus library or is not in the online catalog at all, you can request it using our interlibrary loan service.

Find a book by topic or subject

To find any book by subject, search for it using GalterSearch on the library website.

1. Use either the Search Box in the website banner or click Search in the main menu, and go from there. Both options will produce the same results.
2. Recommended: Do a subject search. Enter your search term and select "in the subject" from the Search which Fields? drop-down.
3. If you have a lot of results, use the Narrow your search by options on the left side of the results page to limit to books, author, online, etc.
4. A keyword search looks for either words in the title or the broad subject area for the book you’re seeking. It does not search inside the book. For searches across a collection of books, use an electronic book collection such as Access Medicine, ClinicalKey, Stat!Ref or Books@Ovid.

If you are seeking only electronic books, click Browse By Subject at the bottom of the GalterSearch form.

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Finding Journals

To find a specific journal, search for it using GalterSearch on the library website.

1. Use either the Search Box in the website banner or click Search in the main menu, and go from there. Both options will produce the same results.
2. Enter the first few words of the journal title. For titles that are likely to produce many results, e.g. Cell or Science, you may want to use the title search option outlined next.
3. For a search by title, enter the first few words of the title in the search box, choose “in the title” from the Search which fields? drop-down and click Search.
4. If you do a title search, you will probably find the book you want quickly. If you still have a lot of results, use the Narrow your search by options on the left side of the results page to limit to journals, online, etc.
5. To access an online journal click on Links and select one of the online access options.

To find only electronic journals on a given subject, click Browse By Subject at the bottom of the GalterSearch form.

Galter Library no longer stores print journals on-site. You can order any article from the print collection using the interlibrary loan service.

Find an article when you know the citation

If you already know the citation for the article you want, then try the following resources:

- PubMed's Single Citation Matcher: enter any information you have about the article in the PubMed Single Citation Matcher form. Go to the abstract of the article and click the Galter Full-Text link, if available.
- PubMed search page: if you have the PubMed ID (PMID), enter this number in the PubMed search box and click Go. Go to the abstract of the article and click the Galter Full-Text link, if available or the Find it @ NU link for further options.
- GalterSearch: use GalterSearch to search PubMed. Simply run a search using author name(s), article title words, and/or journal title words and click on the PubMed tab to view PubMed results within GalterSearch. Click on the FindIt@NU button to view full text options or order the article via interlibrary loan.
- Interlibrary Loan (ILL): use this when the article you want is unavailable either electronically or in print on the Chicago campus.

Searching for articles by topic

If you do not have a specific citation or you want to find articles on a topic, use the following resources:

- GalterSearch—To find journal articles, select either Primo Central or PubMed under the search window.
- MEDLINE (PubMed or Ovid)
- Scopus, Web of Science, or any of the other top databases
- Consult a librarian for in-depth search assistance