

Group 6 - HIST 72

Today we will:

- Practice finding books (e-books and print) in the library's catalog
- Practice using databases to find scholarly articles and other electronic resources
- Practice brainstorming relevant keywords to add depth to your research strategies
- Be prepared to share out your findings to the larger group (pick a designated speaker if you'd like, or feel free to all contribute)

1. Please list the names of your group members below:

Kaitlyn Wyckoff and Lea Field

2. You've already learned how to find a book in the stacks and now you want to find more!

Perform a search in the library's catalog for Marguerite Duras.

- a. Change your search from "All Fields" to "Author" and "Subject". How do the results compare?

"All Fields" shows all results for Marguerite Duras, "Author" only shows results for authors with the name Marguerite Duras, and "Subject" shows all titles including Marguerite Duras.

- b. On the left side of the screen, what are other ways you can limit your search?
Other ways you can limit your search are by library location, resource type, physical media, language, and publication year.

- c. Choose a book that seems particularly interesting or relevant. Is it print or electronic? Is it available? If not, how would you request it?

We chose Revue des lettres modernes. Marguerite Duras. It is in print and available.

- d. What are the Subject headings listed for the book you selected?

Subject headings listed for the book we selected were 1900-1999, 20th century, French literature, Criticism and interpretation, France, and Duras, Marguerite, Duras > Criticism and Interpretation.

3. One of your research options for this class is Heda Margolius Kovaly's memoir, *Under a Cruel Star: A Life in Prague, 1941-1968*. She details events through the Holocaust and the Stalinist

regime in Czechoslovakia. Imagine that you are researching the **Slansky trials** to learn more about the circumstances under which her husband, **Josef Margolius**, was executed.

[Articles+](#) is not a database, per se, but it searches across thousands of the online databases to which the library subscribes. Let's use it to find resources discussing the **Slansky trials**.

- a. On the left side of the page, you will find the option to narrow your results to scholarly and peer-reviewed material. Skim through the results and list the title of an article that looks particularly interesting or relevant.

Edible Revolutionaries: The Rudolf Slánský Trial as a Romance by Peter Steiner

- b. Reset this choice. Now limit your results by Content Type. Choose newspaper articles. (Note that you could also limit by Publication Date). Skim through the results and list the title of an article that looks particularly interesting or relevant.

Slansky Trial Reviewed: Conspiracy Charged

By Paul Wohl Written for The Christian Science Monitor.

- c. Compare the results from the two searches. How might both types of material be important to your research?
 - i. Both may be important because the newspaper article was written during the slansky trials and may show the sentiment of the public during that time and the other may be important because it shows someone else's perspective on the trials.

4. Imagine that you are continuing your research on Kovaly's memoir and you want to learn more about the **Prague Spring**, a period of political liberalization in Czechoslovakia during 1968.

[Oxford Bibliographies Online](#) Provides sophisticated online recommendations to the core scholarship on a subject as determined by experts in the field. All the bibliographic essays have been peer-reviewed, and the specific entries are linked to full-text content available through the web or the UNC Library.

Search through the entry for "[Cold War, 1945-1990](#)" and find mentions of Prague Spring.

<https://www-oxfordbibliographies-com.libproxy.lib.unc.edu/view/document/obo-9780199791279/obo-9780199791279-0146.xml>

List the title of a book or article that looks particularly interesting or relevant.

The Prague Spring and its Aftermath: Czechoslovakia Politics, 1968-1970

5. The library's [E-Research by Discipline](#) includes all our subject specific databases. Imagine you are researching **Marguerite Duras**. Perform a search in at least 2 of the databases listed below. How do the results compare across these different databases? How do you imagine the databases differ based on the descriptions below?

- a. [JSTOR](#) Provides an archive of important scholarly journal literature in nearly all the humanities and social sciences disciplines, international and foreign areas studies, and many of the sciences.

When searching in JSTOR, many journal articles, some books, etc. appear discussing interviews and ideas of Marguerite Duras. There are overviews for each article. You can filter results by language, subject, content type, and date. You will find different perspectives on Marguerite Duras based on the subject selected. For example, there are 2,403 results under Language and Literature and 3 results in Zoology.

- b. [MLA International Bibliography](#) A major index for literary criticism, linguistics, folklore & cultural studies.

- c. [Historical Abstracts](#) Covers the history of the world from 1450 to the present (excluding the United States and Canada) and indexes nearly 2,300 journals in over 40 languages.

When searching on Historical Abstracts, journals and books appear that discuss similar topics as the JSTOR pertaining to Marguerite Duras, but it shows the specific topics of the writing, whereas JSTOR only gives an overview. You can only filter by how recent the text is and the source type.

6. Sometimes your search results will be too broad. In the above example, you began your search with only the author's name. How might you narrow or refine your results?

I may narrow or refine my results by selecting a source type and a specific subject I would want to read to learn more about Marguerite Duras.

7. Try to perform a search in Articles+ for keywords related to the topic you are considering for research in this class. How many search results did you find? What are some examples of keywords you might use to narrow down or expand your search?

- a. **I found 3,919,688 results. Examples of keywords I may use to narrow down or expand my search are to type a specific event in European history in a certain time or a specific person's name that is being researched.**

8. Is there any material that you found today that you feel strongly about? That you would, or wouldn't, use? Why? How might the search strategies you learned today be applied to your future research?

I feel strongly about using JSTOR because there are so many filters to narrow down the search for sources most applicable to what I am researching. A strategy is I may research a few sources through the websites given to see a general overview and determine if they are available in the library.