

How to Start Your Research in the Life Sciences Library

How do I find a book?



Use IU's online catalog, **IUCAT** (<http://iucats.iu.edu>), to locate **books** and **journal titles** held by the IU Libraries statewide (but NOT articles within journals). The **IUCAT** button in the upper right-hand corner of most library web pages provides quick access. You must log in to IUCAT with your university network ID and password in order to access Request Delivery and account information services. You may also search IUCAT without a login, but you will be unable to take advantage of certain features that require authentication.

Where are the books located?

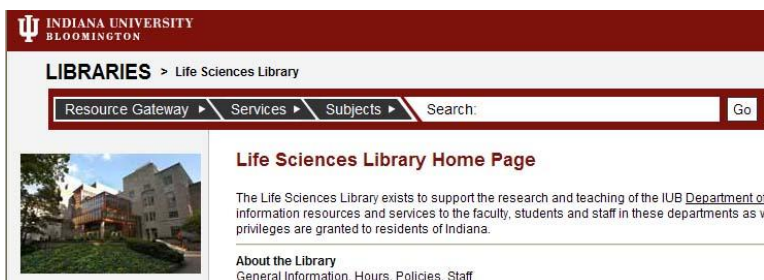
- **Reference books** are arranged by call number near the computer area.
 - **Current unbound journals**, usually less than a year old, are arranged by **title** on the north wall.
 - **All bound journals** are in ALF and can be requested through IUCAT.*
 - **Books** are arranged by call number.
 - **Reserves** are behind the circulation desk or available through electronic reserves at <http://ereserves.indiana.edu>.
 - Use your IU ID card to borrow circulating material.
- Many books and bound journals have been moved to the Auxiliary Library Facility (ALF) and can be requested through IUCAT. Please ask for help at the Life Sciences Library if you have questions.

Searching Tip: While searching IUCAT, try the clickable subject headings located within each individual record display to improve your search. To help you unravel journal title abbreviations (you need the full title to search IUCAT), see: <http://library.caltech.edu/reference/abbreviations/>.

How do I find an article?

You can search journal article citations by using online databases. If you know the name of the database, simply type the name into the "search" box on any library web page. You may also use the Libraries' Find Information page (<http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pageId=16>) to search by name or subject area. Most of the databases are available to you as long as you use a computer in the IU libraries, labs, offices, computer clusters, or dorm rooms or use a VPN from an off-campus computer. The databases on the Find Information page listed under subjects such as **Biology, Medicine, Animal Behavior, and Biochemistry** should be useful for locating journal article citations and selected full-text articles. More information about each database is found in the "about" link to the right of each database name.

Additionally, databases that are particularly useful (see below) in the Life Sciences are easily accessible under "Recommended Resources" on the Life Sciences Library's webpage. <http://www.libraries.iub.edu/lifesci>



Type a few keywords in the "Search" box or click on Resource Gateway to explore recommended resources.

Recommended Databases

Biosis Previews contains the content of Biological Abstracts and Biological Abstracts/RR. Biosis Previews covers the fields of biology, biochemistry, biophysics, botany, clinical and experimental medicine, instrumentation and methods, microbiology, and zoology. It contains references to thousands of journal articles, as well as books, CD-ROMs, software, literature reviews, reports, meetings, meeting papers, conference proceedings, symposia, and selected patents.

ISI Medline covers the journal literature from the medical, dental, and nursing areas and makes extensive use of standardized medical subject headings based on your query. Searches can be limited to full-text and/or review articles.

PubMed contains biomedical citations and abstracts (MEDLINE and OLDMEDLINE) from the U.S. National Library of Medicine. Additional citations, approximately 1% of the database, are from other sources. For access to IUB's online journal subscriptions through PubMed, follow the link from the Life Sciences website under "Recommended Resources".

SEARCH TECHNIQUES:

(These may vary for individual databases.)

Group terms Use Boolean operators to broaden or narrow a search. Standard operators includes and (narrows search) or (broadens search; either of the terms can be present), not (narrows the search, excludes use of that term)

Wild Card Typical truncation symbols include * \$?

Examples: chromatog* [retrieves all words that start with chromatog]; wom?n [retrieves all words women or woman]

Nesting Specifies the order in which keywords are search by using parentheses (). This is useful when combining like terms. Example: (television or TV) and advertising not (children or youth or teen\$)

as far back as 1864. The sources are journals, review annuals, monographs, meeting proceedings, books and reports. The overlap with BIOSIS Previews is approximately 60% but ZR covers earlier literature.

JSTOR is a not-for-profit organization established with the assistance of The Mellon Foundation that provides complete runs of hundreds of important journal titles in more than 30 arts, humanities, and social science disciplines. The full text of these scholarly journals can be browsed online and searched, and the page images can be printed. The IUB Libraries subscribe to virtually all titles available through JSTOR. All journals in JSTOR start with the first volume. Most include content up to a "moving wall" of 3-5 years ago, although some journals have a fixed ending date for their content in JSTOR. Please check individual journals for exact dates of coverage.

NEED HELP??

Just ask!! Please feel free to ask for help from one of our full-time staff or students workers.

Email : liblife@indiana.edu

Call: 812-855-8947

Our home page with more information can be found at <http://www.libraries.iub.edu/lifesci>

SciFinder Scholar covers journal articles, patents, technical reports and books. Although chemistry is the focus, it is defined very broadly and includes lots of biological information (e.g. sequence information, biotechnology, and biochemistry as well as toxicology, medicine and food science). Thirty-six million organic and inorganic substances are indexed, including and the structural diagrams for many. SciFinder Scholar is available from most library computers or can be downloaded from: <http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pageId=2114>. There is also a web version of SciFinder.

Web of Science (accessed from Web of Knowledge) is a multi-disciplinary index that is updated weekly. This database covers ≈ 9,700 of the most important journals from a wide variety of disciplines and allows forward and backward cited reference searching. In addition, Web of Science allows a user to easily setup a **current awareness** profile with results emailed on a weekly basis.

Zoological Record (via Web of Knowledge) provides comprehensive coverage of the zoological literature

Other useful databases:

Academic Search (EBSCO) provides full-text access to popular magazines, newspapers, and some peer-reviewed journals from a variety of disciplines. The full text of articles from more than 1000 journals is included. It is not a substitute for the more comprehensive databases listed above, but it can be a good place to start when looking for a basic topic overview. It covers topics in business, the social sciences, humanities, general science, education, and multiculturalism.

AccessScience is the web version of the McGraw-Hill *Encyclopedia of Science and Technology*. It contains articles, dictionary terms, and biographies plus research updates, links to relevant web sites, and a "Student Center." Over 20 scientific disciplines are covered, ranging from Astronomy to Earth Sciences to Physics.

Agricola covers more than 2.8 million citations to journal literature, government reports, serials, monographs, theses, patents, audiovisual sources, and technical reports in agriculture and related fields. Subject coverage includes agriculture, agricultural production and economics, rural sociology, animal sciences, chemistry, plant sciences, natural resources, pesticides, animal sciences and water resources.

Encyclopedia of Life Sciences is compiled as an electronic database and is regularly updated online. The core subjects are Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Developmental Biology, Evolution, Genetics & Molecular Biology, Immunology, Microbiology & Virology, Neuroscience, Plant Science, and Structural Biology. It contains almost 5,000 articles and 7,500 illustrations.

How do I browse a journal online?

The Life Sciences Electronic Journals Web page provides an alphabetical list of full-text journals of particular interest to users of the Life Sciences Library is found at <http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pagelid=5219>.

Environmental Sciences and Pollution Management includes abstracts and citations from over 6000 scientific journals. Conference proceedings, reports, monographs, books and government publications are also included. Subject coverage includes agricultural biotechnology, ecology, pollution, toxicology and water resource issues.

Faculty of 1000 -- Biology is a literature awareness tool that highlights and reviews the most interesting papers published in the biological sciences, based on the recommendations of a faculty of over 2000 selected leading researchers. These scientists provide a consensus map of the important papers and trends across biology and the life sciences. The major areas are biochemistry, bioinformatics, biotechnology, cell biology, chemical biology, developmental biology, evolutionary biology, genomics & genetics, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, molecular medicine, neuroscience, plant biology, and structural biology. It highlights papers on the basis of their scientific merit rather than the journal in which they appear so it is an alternative approach to ISI's Science Citation Index.

PsyclINFO includes material relevant to psychology from such related disciplines as medicine, anthropology, animal behavior, animal cognition, and eugenics. More than 2150 journals in 27 languages are indexed.

PAIS (Public Affairs Information Service) indexes materials related to public policy and social issues, including the fields of political science, government, international relations, economics, finance, law, environment, demography, sociology and business. It covers journal articles, books, government documents, pamphlets and the reports of public and private bodies. More than 3,800 journals and 8,000 monographs are indexed and abstracted each year. PAIS is international in scope and indexes publications in English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

Try searching these E-journals:

TEXT JOURNALS AND OTHER ONLINE SOURCES

Sometimes searching full-text collections is an effective alternative to looking in a citation database. A list of full-text journals of particular interest to users of the Life Sciences Library is found at:

<http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pagelid=5219>

MORE E-JOURNAL COLLECTIONS (SEARCHABLE)

- Wiley/ Blackwell Synergy at <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com>
- Annual Reviews at <http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/search/advanced>
This is good place to start for background on a topic
- BioOne at <http://www.bioone.org/bioone/?request=search-simple>
- American Society for Microbiology Journals at <http://journals.asm.org/search.dtl>
- American Physiological Society Journals at <http://advan.physiology.org/search.dtl>
- JSTOR at <http://www.jstor.org/search>
*This has complete archives of select journals (includes all articles **EXCEPT** the last 3-5 years)*
- ScienceDirect at <http://www.sciencedirect.com>
This has 2,500 titles from Elsevier. Although one may search all 2,500 titles, IU does not have access to the full text of all of these journals.

ONLINE ENCYCLOPEDIAS

- AccessScience at <http://www.accessscience.com/server-java/Arknoid/science/AS>
- Encyclopedia of Life Sciences at <http://www.els.net/>
- Encyclopedia of Biological Chemistry at
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/referenceworks/9780124437104>

E-BOOKS (others in IUCAT)

- Selected e-book list at <http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pagelid=5190>
- A large number of e-books from Springer (including handbooks and some protocols) can be found by searching <http://springerlink.metapress.com/home/main.mpx> and limiting to books or book chapters.
- EcoSal at <http://www.ecosal.org/ecosal/index.jsp>
- The Prokaryotes at <http://www.springerlink.com/reference-works/?sortorder=asc&Publication=The+Prokaryotes>