

## **Finding Full Text Journal Articles**

Are you having trouble gaining access to full-text articles? If so, don't worry and don't give up!

## Literature Databases and SFX@UCL

If you're not doing so already, please search your literature databases of choice (for example, PubMed and Embase) by logging on to Metalib first using your UCL username and password. By logging on this way, you tell the web that you may have access to anything UCL pays for. More information about the databases and the access routes can be found on our webpages.

Hopefully most of the articles you require are available via the SFX link from the databases. However, there will be occasions when they are not - sometimes because UCL does not have an online subscription, sometimes because the content is not yet available in a digital format.

## **Google Scholar**

It may be useful to search Google Scholar for a specific article using the article details (for example, author name and title word) in case the full text is available from another source, such as a University repository or an Open Access forum that UCL hasn't indexed. As with literature databases, access Google Scholar via Metalib using your UCL username and password.

### Not Online?

If the SFX box states 'no full text online', please do not quit. It could be that UCL has access to the print format. To find out, search the Library Catalogue in 'Explore' rather than the options presented by the SFX box. Using *Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology* as an example, please follow the steps below to see how:

- Open up Explore. There's a link from the School Library's web pages.
- Click on Advanced Search (the second option along the bottom)
- Change the search field next to the search box from Any to Title
- Type in Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology
- On the right hand side, change [Search Scope] from All Resources to Library Catalogue
- Press Search

# You will get two relevant entries:

The second entry is for access to the online format of the journal. However, when you click on View Online, SFX will indicate that online coverage started in 1995, no good if the article you require is from a volume published previously, however...

...The first entry is for print holdings. By clicking on Locations and the + button, you will see that we have the print version from 1949 until 2008, literally on our shelves. Ask staff to help you retrieve the relevant volume for you to copy.

#### Stores Service and other UCL Libraries

You will notice there are two alternative locations, Science and Stores. Stores is an off-site storage facility in rural Essex where older materials are kept safely and securely. If the item you require is in Stores, please fill in a Stores Request form found <u>online via UCL Libraries</u> and choose us as your pick-up Library. You are not expected to go to Essex yourself.

You are expected to go to the other Library sites if one of them is the location for the item you require, for example Science or Child Health. If the site is Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics or the Royal Free and it is not convenient for you to visit, please talk to us about alternative access.

# Not online and not in print across UCL?

If the item you require is not available from UCL, it is time to check <u>other libraries</u>. Some you can join to borrow, some you can join for reference (i.e. you can consult and copy on-site but you cannot borrow), and some you can visit. Please check individual library websites for access arrangements but do consider joining or using the following libraries or federated catalogues:

<u>Senate House Library</u> It is free to join and you can borrow books and gain access to its online subscriptions. Whilst its focus is Humanities and Social Sciences, there is a lot of science and health-related material online. Also, it is very interesting place to study.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society As student members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society you are eligible to use its library. It is reference only but naturally enough the holdings will be especially relevant to you. Please email them to arrange a visit or appointment.

<u>Wellcome Library</u> It is reference only, but it is local and it has a fantastic collection of science and health literature.

British Library is the National Library, holds everything published in the UK and offers access to 10,000s of global journal titles. As a unique but very popular resource, the British Library will require you to demonstrate your specific research needs to be able to grant you access. Don't be dissuaded they are very helpful, it is a wonderful place to study and it is only up the road.

<u>Search M25</u> is an aggregation of the catalogues of University and some Special Libraries in or near London. Use Search M25 to search for locations of items you need. If a library is identified, check access agreements for UCL students <u>here</u> and the website of the Library you wish to visit for opening hours and access provisions.

<u>Special Libraries</u> Depending on the subject and nature of your research, you may wish to consider spending an afternoon in a Special Library. For example, Kew Gardens and the Natural History Museum for plant sciences. Most are reference only and you may need to pre-arrange a visit, but it is a lovely thing to do.

## Not Online and not in print in London?

Please visit the Library and ask staff about the <u>Interlibrary Loan Service</u>. So long as you are absolutely sure you want the article and you have tried, within reason, the options described above, we will do our best to get it for you. Please check this with your individual supervisor, but it would only be acceptable to exclude an article from your review on the grounds that it was not available in full text if you have exhausted all means of acquiring it.