What is SFX?

SFX is a facility that takes you beyond the library catalogue and bibliographic databases.

- It enables catalogue records to link to full text where we have a subscription to the relevant electronic journal or electronic book.
- It leads you to full text articles from databases such as the Web of Science.
- It provides links to other library catalogues.

How does SFX work?

1. You will see the SFX button appearing next to references in a number of databases. This includes Explore, UCL’s gateway for finding books, journals and online resources, as many of the individual electronic resources to which UCL subscribes. For example, on Explore or another article-finding database:-

Databases for finding journal article information can be accessed by title or subject area via: www.ucl.ac.uk/library/electronic-resources/databases
2. When you click on the [SFX@UCL] button, a menu will open in a new window. The full citation of the book, journal or journal article is given at the top of the menu. The options on the SFX menu vary, depending on where you clicked on the SFX button, but they may include links to full text journal articles or books (where available), and direct searches in a selection of library catalogues.

3. When you select one of the links on the SFX menu, another window will open, containing the resource or service you requested: eg the full text electronic journal or the chosen library catalogue. So SFX saves you time by presenting, in one place, all the main options for obtaining a book or journal article.

Points to note:

- Full text will only appear in the SFX menu if UCL subscribes to the electronic journal or book, and to the requested issue, if any.
- Where UCL subscribes to more than one provider of the same electronic journal, all these alternatives will be listed in the SFX menu.
- Normal off-campus access restrictions apply to electronic journals – where a password is required, a note will appear in the SFX menu.

Help

For more detailed information, see the our electronic resources pages on the Library Services website:

www.ucl.ac.uk/library/electronic-resources

or ask at one of Library Services’ Enquiry Desks.

March 2013