Library Orientation for Graduate Students in Cultural Studies

Queen’s University Library Homepage: [http://library.queensu.ca](http://library.queensu.ca)
Services for Graduate Students: [http://library.queensu.ca/help-services/services-graduate-students](http://library.queensu.ca/help-services/services-graduate-students)
Research by Subject – Cultural Studies: [http://guides.library.queensu.ca/cultural-studies](http://guides.library.queensu.ca/cultural-studies)
A selective guide to key and recommended information resources for Cultural Studies

**Getting Help:** Contact me to arrange an appointment:
Sylvia Andrychuk
Cultural Studies Liaison Librarian, 107C Stauffer Library. [andrychs@queensu.ca](mailto:andrychs@queensu.ca)
**1 Connect from Off-Campus** [http://proxy.queensu.ca/](http://proxy.queensu.ca/)

Access to the Library’s electronic subscriptions (e-books, e-journals, indexes and databases) is restricted to current Queen’s students, faculty and staff. When connecting from off-campus, sign in with your NetID.

**2 My Account**

My Library Account (QCAT): to review and renew materials you have signed out
Interlibrary Loan (RACER): to search for and request materials from other libraries

**3 Search**

Quick links to **Search Tools**, **Types of Information**, and guides to **Subjects & Courses**

**4 Help & Services**

Quick links to **Your Library** (see Graduate Students), **Help**, **Using the Library**, **Teaching & Research** (see **Copyright & Fair Dealing** and **Scholarly Publishing**)

**5 Summon** Search across the library catalogue and many of our electronic resources, from a single search box.

**6 QCAT**: The Queen’s Library Catalogue. Search the library catalogue (QCAT) to find materials (such as books, videos, journals, newspapers and government documents) available, in print and online, at Queen’s University Library.

**7 More Search Tools**

**Journal Search** provides multiple ways to search for journals and other serials, with options to browse and filter your results. **Database Search** provides multiple ways to search for research databases, with options to browse and filter your results.

**8 Using the Library**: Borrowing, Requesting Materials, Booking Group Study Rooms

**9 Learning**: Research by Subject guides

**10 Research**: Includes information about preparing your theses and QSpace, our online repository of digital content produced and collected by the Queen’s community.
Queen’s Library Collections

There are six campus libraries in five physical locations:
http://library.queensu.ca/locations/all

- **Stauffer Library** (Art, Music, Business, Humanities and Social Sciences) – houses the majority of the print collection in Cultural Studies; Maps, Data, and Government Information (Stauffer library, lower level)
- **Bracken Health Sciences Library**
- **Education Library**
- **Lederman Law Library** – includes socio-legal studies
- **Douglas Library - Engineering and Science** – includes science & technology studies and W.D. Jordan Rare Books & Special Collections

Study Space

- The Helen Howard Graduate Student Reading Room is located on the 3rd floor of Stauffer library (expected opening date in October)
- [Bookable group study rooms](#) are available throughout the libraries and in Watson Hall (Library LINQ)
- A limited number of [study carrels](#) are available for graduate students

Borrowing Information

Your Queen’s student card is your library card and you can view your library account on the library’s website. You will find complete borrowing information, including loan periods, how to renew and recall items, fines and more at [http://library.queensu.ca/help-services/borrowing](http://library.queensu.ca/help-services/borrowing)

Graduate student privileges include:
- Extended loan periods ([term loan](#) is subject to recall)
- Borrowing an unlimited number of books (subject to recall)
- inter-university borrowing privileges

Search Strategies and Database Search Tips

**Search Strategy**: consider which concepts need to ALL be present in a search result for it to be useful to your research. Combine synonyms or related words and phrases with [OR](#), combine each group with [AND](#) (these are known as [Boolean Operators](#), and are used in every database to enable researchers to combine keyword terms to search a topic, broaden or refine a topic or limit result sets):

- **To search precisely**: Use [AND](#) to combine concepts, use "quotation marks around phrases," use [NOT](#) to eliminate unrelated concepts, apply limits (such as date, format, etc).
- **To search comprehensively**: Use [OR](#), use both keywords and subject heading words, use truncation character at ends of words to find multiple related words (in QCAT, the truncation character is “?”, in most other databases, it is “*”), search within full text (if available).
Research Tools

Summon

Search across the library catalogue and many of our electronic resources, from one search box. Summon contains everything found in the traditional QCAT Library Catalogue, plus millions of full-text articles available from the Library. Can be a very useful search tool for interdisciplinary topics. Facets are available within Summon to narrow down your search results.

Library Catalogue (QCAT)

Search the library catalogue (QCAT) to find materials (such as books, videos, journals, newspapers and government documents) available, in print and online, at Queen’s University Library.

Research Guides – Cultural Studies: http://guides.library.queensu.ca/cultural-studies
A selective guide to key and recommended information resources for Cultural Studies.

Resources for Background Information

When seeking authoritative background information consult specialized bibliographies, companions, dictionaries, encyclopedias and handbooks. The Library’s Subject Guide for Cultural Studies lists highly recommended reference resources, including:
Oxford Bibliographies
This resource lists books, journals, primary documents, web resources, and multimedia in various discipline-based subject modules.

The Year’s Work in Critical and Cultural Theory
This journal provides annotated bibliographies to published works in the field of critical and cultural theory.

Companion to Cultural Studies ed. Toby Miller
Experts from five continents provide a thorough exploration of cultural studies, looking at different ideas, places and problems addressed by the field.

Books and Ebook Collections

Use the Queen’s Library Catalogue (QCAT) to find the locations and call numbers of books (as well as videos, audio, microform, map, serial, and rare titles) at Queen’s Library. Use the subject headings to locate additional material.

Most of the library’s electronic books are listed in QCAT and Summon, but you may also search the ebook packages directly. Please note that when searching ebook collections directly you may encounter titles in the collection to which Queen’s does not have access. You can request a print copy of the monograph through interlibrary loan (RACER).

Collections include:

- ACLS Humanities E-Books
- ProQuest Ebook Central
- e-Duke Books Scholarly Collection
- Scholars Portal Books

Interlibrary Loan and Other Library Catalogues

For books and articles not owned by Queen’s Library, request items through Interlibrary Loan (RACER).

Other Library Catalogues
Searching library collections beyond Queen’s? A list of other library catalogues can be found here: http://library.queensu.ca/search/other-library-catalogues. WorldCat, an aggregate database of library catalogues worldwide, is particularly useful for discovering materials on your topic. Request item(s) through RACER.
Queen’s University Library is also a member of the Center for Research Libraries http://www.crl.edu/. The CRL catalogue is located at http://catalog.crl.edu/. CRL materials can be requested through RACER (on the RACER request form, note that the item is at CRL).

**Article Indexes & Databases**

Search indexes and databases to find records to journal articles, citations to books, theses, conference proceedings and more. The library subscribes to over 650 databases and provides access to over 80,000 journal, magazine and newspaper titles.

Each academic discipline has its own specialized article indexes, which index the core literature of that discipline (and often relevant topics from related-disciplines). The Cultural Studies Subject Guide lists recommended article indexes and databases, but depending on your research topic, you may need to consult other subject guides and/or Guides by Format.

**Strategies for Effective Database Searching:**

- Start your search with the obvious keywords or search terms. Also think of synonyms, alternate spellings, other terms or phrases to express the same concepts. Subject headings (from QCAT) for relevant books are also useful for searching in indexes and databases.
- Each database has different syntax requirements. Consult the “Help” or “Search Tips” section to get the most out of your searches.
- Most research databases have direct links to full-text if we subscribe to the journal. Use Getit@Queens to follow links to the text of an article or to QCAT (library catalogue). In QCAT use the “Journal Title Exact” option to check if Queen’s Library subscribes to the publication.
- Print, save or email your search results and articles.

**Queen’s Library Journal Collections**

The Library subscribes to hundreds of journals relevant to Cultural Studies. Individual journal titles are listed in QCAT and Summon. When you know the title of a journal you are looking for, perform a journal title search to determine its location (either in print, on the 2nd floor of Stauffer library, or online). You can also search for the name of the journal in More Search Tools -> Journals on the library homepage:
Current Awareness Services

Alerting, current awareness or table of contents services are designed to assist researchers in keeping up-to-date with current literature in a discipline. A number of databases and electronic journals provide automated alerting services based on your search profile or search strategy. Depending on the service, you may receive emailed tables of contents of your chosen journals, or a list of individual article citations.

From QCAT or the library homepage (Journal Title search) look up the journal title and choose the publisher’s platform (if that option is available):

Once you are on the publisher’s page, look for an “Email Alerts” option

Citation Indexes: Cited Reference Searching

Citation searching, also known as cited reference searching, is a search for other articles that have made reference to a particular book, article, or author. Citation searching will help you find similar research and find out how important a work is to your research.

A citation search will show you who has mentioned your article, where, and how many times. It will allow you to search forward in the published literature, starting from your known reference, to locate new articles which cite your known reference in their bibliographies. Citation indexes allow you to trace the evolution of an idea from one author’s paper backward using its bibliography and forward (to determine who is citing whom) using cited reference searching.

Consult the library guide to conducting a cited reference search: Cited Reference Searching in the Social Sciences and Humanities for details. Google Scholar and discipline-specific databases provide links to cited references within their databases; Web of Science specializes in cited reference searching.

Google Scholar
[direct URL to bookmark: https://proxy.queensu.ca/login?url=https://scholar.google.com/]
Use the Google Scholar search engine to locate materials from a wide variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles published on the "open" web.
By searching Google Scholar through the Queen’s web proxy (using the link provided above) the “Get It at Queen’s” citation linker is activated (which allows you to click directly through to the Library's subscriptions).

To activate when going directly to Google Scholar https://scholar.google.ca/, click on Settings >> Library Links >> select Queen’s University Library at Kingston Canada >> Save

**Multimedia**

The Library’s collection of multimedia resources includes films, image, streaming music databases and more. The following are some examples of the Library’s subscription databases to films:

**Criterion on Demand**

Users may stream or download from a selection of over 5800 films ranging from classic film, documentaries, international film, North American feature films, cult classics, and more.

**Curio.ca**

Streaming access to the best in educational content from CBC and Radio-Canada. Documentaries from television and radio, news reports, archival material, stock shots and more — thousands of programs and resources can be accessed on this site.

**Films on Demand**

Database of documentaries, educational videos and news footage. The Library subscribes to the Humanities & Social Sciences Collection.

**NFB.ca - The National Film Board's Online Screening Room**

Access to documentaries, animation and alternative dramas in streaming video, as well as NFB playlists, upcoming films and other related resources.

**News Resources**

Queen’s Library subscribes to local, regional, national and international news databases. These databases provide significant date coverage (unlike the free news sites on the web) and allow for a variety of search capabilities ideal for academic-level research. Consult the guide to major news indexes and full-text news resources at Queen’s Library.

**Primary Sources**

The Library subscribes to online databases that provide access to primary source materials, including:

**Black Thought and Culture: African Americans from Colonial Times to the Present**

**Defining Gender, 1450-1910**

**Underground and Independent Comics, Comix, and Graphic Novels**

**Women and Social Movements in the United States 1600-2000**
Research Methods

Using keyword or a Boolean keyword search, search QCAT for books on a specific research method. The following books are particularly relevant to conducting research in Cultural Studies:

Doing Research in Cultural Studies (ebook)
Research Methods for Cultural Studies (print)
Research Practice for Cultural Studies (ebook)

The Library also subscribes to a specialized research methods database:

Sage Research Methods Online
This database “provides the most comprehensive picture available today of research methods (quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods) across the social and behavioural sciences” and published by Sage.

Dissertations and Theses

Guide to Finding Theses and Dissertations
Preparing and Submitting Your Thesis to QSpace

Citation Management

http://guides.library.queensu.ca/citing-and-citation-managers/citation-managers

Use citation software to organize your own library of citations, incorporate quotes into your assignments, and compile reference lists (bibliographies) for your assignments. Citation managers will take care of the citation style required for your assignments and can help ensure that all citations and bibliographies are organized in accordance with the standards.

Consult the Library’s guide to Citing and Citation Managers for helpful information on managing your citations.

EndNote Desktop is now available from MyQueensU Software Centre
https://my.queensu.ca/software-centre.