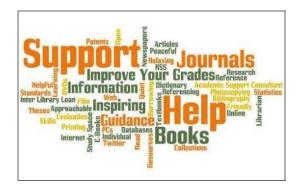
# Keeping up-to-date with a Subject

search, discover, study...



Stay alert!

This guide aims to show you ways you can keep up-to-date with the literature of your subject and information about recent developments in your field.

## **Search Alerts**

Most **databases** allow you to set up a search alert. You create a search, view the results and then save your search strategy. When **new articles** that match the search appear, you are notified automatically. You can save several searches on different topics. Use the electronic resources to which the Information and Learning Commons (ILC) is subscribed to, such as **Ebsco** databases as they offer alerting services based on your saved searches.

**Google Scholar** - (http://www.google.com/alerts) - allows you to set up a **search alert**, without having a Google account. Do a search for your topic, click on the "Create alert" button. Google will send you an email when there are new results for your search query. Choose the result type *Everything* if you'd like an alert that aggregates the latest Google results from multiple sources (*News*, *Blogs*, *Discussions*, *Books*, *etc.*) into a single email.

## Cited Article Alerts

It is important to keep up-to-date with who is researching and being cited in your area of interest. **Cited reference searching** allows you to find articles that have cited a previously published author or work.

Some databases provide the ability to "browse references." When you run a Basic or Advanced Keyword Search, any Cited References or Times Cited links that are available are presented with your search results. **EBSCOHost** allows cited searching by Author, Title and Source.

In other cases, when certain databases index new articles, they **identify the sources** the author used to write that article. You can look at that **cited reference**, see how many times it has been cited in that database, and click through to see details. This is a good way of **finding new** material and new authors in your field. Databases offering this service include, **PsycINFO**, **Medline**.

## **Table of Contents (TOCs) Alerts**

Table of Contents (TOCs) services alert you when a **new issue** of a journal appears. There are several services (aggregators) which cover a wide range of journal titles and subjects. Examples are:

### **JournalTocs** (http://www.journaltocs.ac.uk/index.php )

Provides table of contents from approximately 18,000 scholarly journals (including 3,228 selected Open Access journals) in all subjects. You can search for TOCs, view the latest TOC for each journal and link to the full text, provided the College has a subscription.

If you set up an account, JournalTOCs will alert you when new issues of your "Followed" journals are published.

### ZeToc (http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/)

Provides access to the British Library's Electronic Table of Contents, with around 28,000 current journals and 45 million article citations and conference papers. The database covers 1993 to date, and is updated on a daily basis.

You can set-up a personalised email ZeToc Alerts or RSS feeds to track the latest articles or journal titles related to your interests, stay up-to-date with new research, and expand your field of knowledge. Before getting started, you need to name the institution you represent. Select "Sheffield, University of and click on the Go button. You need your MUSE account details to Create a New Account. In most cases, you can also access abstracts or the full text of articles, depending on your institution's subscription arrangements.

## **New Books**

In many subjects, knowing about new books is particularly important.

Publishers offering email alerting services for new books include **Taylor & Francis** (<a href="http://clients.adestra.com/tandf/eupdates/">http://clients.adestra.com/tandf/eupdates/</a>), **Sage** (<a href="http://www.sagepub.com/home.nav">http://www.sagepub.com/home.nav</a>) and **Oxford University Press** (<a href="http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/category/academic.do">http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/category/academic.do</a>).

Publishers which allow you to browse a list of new books on their websites include those in **Pearson** (http://www.pearsoned.co.uk/student/subject.asp?item=8875) group.

Websites listing new books include **Booknews** (<a href="http://www.booknews.co.uk/">http://www.booknews.co.uk/</a>) (for science, technology and medicine) and **Computer Bookshops Limited** (<a href="http://www.computerbookshops.com/Expert/Home/en/expert.jsp">http://www.computerbookshops.com/Expert/Home/en/expert.jsp</a>)

#### New books in the ILC

Check the "New Arrivals" section to see new ILc acquisitions. Items are displayed on the shelves for a short period of time before becoming available for loan. However, if a book is of your interest you may place a reservation request and you shall be notified to receive it as soon as it is removed from the display shelves.

Printed catalogues of New Library Acquisitions are available for users at the Library Services Desk. Electronic lists are available at the ILC web pages.

## **Conference Proceedings**

They can be useful in providing the latest research, or research that has not been published. They are also helpful in providing information on who are currently involved and in which research areas and in tracking down other work by the same researchers. For unpublished papers you may

- Search to see if a version of the paper is in an institutional repository.
- Contact the author direct to request a copy of the paper.

To stay alert on forthcoming conferences you can use:

**AllConferences.com** (<a href="http://www.allconferences.com/">http://www.allconferences.com/</a>) is a directory focusing on conferences, conventions, trade shows, exhibits, workshops, events and business meetings.

**Conference Alerts** (<a href="http://www.conferencealerts.com/">http://www.conferencealerts.com/</a>) provides a searchable online database and a monthly alert service through which you will receive free e-mailed updates of conferences matching your interests, available dates and preferred destinations.

**MInd: The Meetings Index** (<a href="http://www.interdok.com/mind/index.cfm">http://www.interdok.com/mind/index.cfm</a>) offers free access to locate future conferences, congresses, meetings and symposia. The subject categories provided in MInd consist: Science/Technology, Medical/Life Sciences, Pollution Control/Ecology, Social Sciences/Humanities.

ZeTOC (<a href="http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/">http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/</a>) an help you stay alert on your subject.

## Internet

Try using the **"Internet Resources"** from the "Collection & Resources" ILC web pages and bookmark all the useful and relevant to your subject interest sites.

Tip: Check **"10 websites to help you keep up-to-date with scholarly journal contents"** at (http://hwlibrary.wordpress.com/2009/10/21/10-websites-to-help-you-keep-up-to-date-with-scholarly-journal-contents/) - a good selection of internet sites.

In case the full text content is not available in an electronic resource or the Internet check the possibility of using the **Interlibrary Request Service**.

For further help you may reach the Library Services Desk by email at: <a href="mailto:library@city.academic.gr">library@city.academic.gr</a>, by phone: +30 2310 538560/961 or in person at the Information & Learning Commons (ILC), 6th floor, Leontos Sofou building.