LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts

COVERAGE

LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA) indexes and abstracts articles from over 440 journals covering all aspects of the international literature in librarianship and information science. Subject areas include: library management, library use and users, information management, information technology, internet and World Wide Web, online information retrieval, knowledge management and medical information. LLBA provides bibliographic records, abstracts and includes some full-text access. Coverage is from 1969 to date and the database is updated every 2 weeks.

ACCESS

LISA may be accessed from any PC connected to the Internet, either on or off-campus. Go to the library homepage at http://library.ulster.ac.uk, click on the Databases link and select LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts from the alphabetical list of library databases. If you are working off campus you will need an Athens username and password to access the service. You can look up your Athens details on the Student Web at http://studentweb.ulster.ac.uk using your student registration number and PIN to login.

The LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts database is part of the Cambridge Scientific Abstracts Core Collection of databases, so you may also access it by selecting it from the list of databases available once you have logged into CSA. Tick the box beside LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts in the alphabetical list.

SEARCHING

Searching Options

There are 2 main search options: Quick Search and Advanced Search. You will be automatically logged on to the Quick Search option and will need to click on the green Advanced Search tab to move to this search function. The Command Search is also available within the Search Tools function.

Quick search

Use this method for quick and simple searches.
1. Key in your search terms in the box provided. You can enter a single word, phrase or combine separate terms together. (See Search Tips below).
2. The database that you have selected will be listed on the search screen. For example, Now Selected: LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts.
3. Click on the downward pointing arrow at Date Range to select a time period from the menu displayed.
4. Click on Search. Your search will be processed and the results displayed.

Advanced Search

Use this search method for longer and more complex searches.
1. Click on the green Advanced Search tab.
2. Key in your search terms in the boxes provided, using the drop-down menus to select the fields (areas within the record) you wish to search: Keyword, Author, Title etc. In particular selecting the Keyword search will search the title, abstract and descriptors simultaneously and can be a good way to narrow your search down to more relevant material. Combine the terms using AND, OR and NOT. See Search Tips below for more details on combining terms.
3. The database you have selected will be listed on the search screen. For example, Now Selected: LISA: Library and Information Science Abstracts.
4. At Date Range select a range of years to search within.
5. Tick the checkboxes to limit your search to Latest Update, Journal Articles Only or English Only.
6. You can specify the format you wish to view results in by clicking on the downward pointing arrow at Show. Choose from short, full, full-omit refs or custom format. For the latter you select the fields you wish to be included in the results displayed.
7. You can specify the number of results to be displayed on each results page. Choose from 10, 25 or 50.
8. Click on Search. Your search will be processed and the results displayed.
Search Tips
Combine terms:
Use AND to narrow your search by specifying that both terms must appear, eg: libraries AND marketing.
Use OR to broaden your search for any of the terms, eg: Britain OR United Kingdom OR UK
Use NOT to search for one term but not the other, eg: communication NOT nonverbal will find articles which include the term communication but not the term nonverbal. Use NOT cautiously or you may lose relevant articles.

Phrases
To find words in a phrase simply type in the phrase, for example: Dewey classification.
Use proximity searching (see below) to find words within a specified radius.

Proximity searching
Use WITHIN to find words within a specified radius, for example:
(law) within 2 (library) to find these terms within 2 words of each other and in any order.
Use NEAR to find terms within 10 words of each other and in any order. BEFORE and AFTER find words in a particular order.

Note: use double quotes “ ” to search for near, before and after if you want to use them as search terms e.g. “near” misses.

Truncation and wildcards
The symbol * can be used to search for any word beginning with a set of characters, for example: librar* will retrieve library, librarian, librarianship, etc.
* may also be used to represent any number of characters within a word, for example: use behavi*r for behaviour or behavior.
The symbol ? can be used to represent a single character within or at the end of a word, for example: organi?ation will find organisation or organization. ?? represents 2 characters, ??? 3 characters and so on.

Search Tools
(Click on Help & Support for more information about these).

1. Combine Searches: use this function to combine results from two or more searches from the current search history, or combine the results of current searches with new search terms. Use "AND" or "OR" to combine searches.

2. Alerts: A saved alert will be used to automatically search your selected databases for new content every week. You will receive an email message that contains up to 250 new records from each database that has new matching content.

3. History: Click here to see a list of the searches you have performed during your current session. Up to fifty current searches are displayed in sequence.

4. Command Search: You may choose to enter your search strategy in the Command Search box.

5. Thesaurus: The British Humanities Index has a thesaurus which you can use to find search terms. You can browse for terms via an alphabetical, hierarchical or rotated index display.
Steps: Select a Thesaurus from the drop-down menu. Only one thesaurus can be selected at a time. Enter a term in the box below.
Select the Alphabetical Index, Hierarchy or Rotated Index display.
Click on Go.
The Alphabetical Index will display a list of terms which are closest alphabetically to the term entered, for example Law libraries will find the terms Latvian materials and Law reports.
Hierarchy displays broader, narrower and related terms, for example School libraries will offer the narrower term Secondary school libraries and the related term Children’s libraries.
Rotated Index displays all terms in the database that contain your search term.
To select a term or terms to search for from those displayed, tick the empty checkbox beside the term and click on Go on the left hand side of the screen. A search will then be carried out for your term or phrase and the results will be displayed.
6. **Indexes**: Use the indexes to browse for terms used in the database. For most of the databases you will be able to browse the author, journal name and publication type indexes.

**Steps:**
- Select an Index from the drop-down menu.
- Enter a search term in the box below.
- Click on Go.

To select a term or terms to search for from those displayed, tick the empty checkbox beside the term and click on Go on the left hand side of the screen. A search will then be carried out for your term or phrase and the results will be displayed.

**VIEWING RESULTS**

The total number of results found in the database is displayed at the top of the screen. Click on the + sign to view additional links to either related references or Web resources.

By default results are displayed together regardless of publication (*All Publication Types*). You can view results by publication type by clicking on the appropriate tab near the top of the screen - *Journals, Peer-Reviewed Journals, Conferences, Books* etc.

Each record displayed will include title, author and source information. Click on the title or on View Record to display more information for each record including a fuller abstract.

**UU Find It**

Click the UU Find It button to check if the library provides access to the document you need. UU Find It will search both for full text electronic journals and current print journals. Click on the link to the option you wish to use, for example Full text from SwetsWise.

**Full-text Linking**

If available, you may also click on Full-text Linking to link into the full text of the document required.

**Marking Records**

You can mark (select) records by ticking in the box to the top-left of each record. You can then output these marked records using the Save, Print, Email function or export them using RefWorks.

**PRINTING AND SAVING RESULTS**

Click on the Save, Print, Email button. Select records for output. Use the drop down menu to specify a format for results to be displayed in.

**Emailing**

Type in your email address in the To: box provided. Click on the Email button.

**Saving**

Select the correct file format – PC, Macintosh or Unix and click on the Save function.

**Printing**

Click on Print Preview, go to File and Print and print the required pages. To close the Print Preview window click on the x in the top right hand corner.

**Export to RefWorks**

Use this link to export your references to the RefWorks Bibliographic Manager service. This is also available as a separate function on the Results screen.
CHANGING DATABASES

You can move to another database or databases in the collection – you can do this from many of the function screens in the database such as the Quick, Advanced and Command Search screens.

Click on the downward pointing arrow at Selected Databases and highlight one of the subject areas displayed in the menu. Choose from Arts & Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences or Technology. Alternatively, click on Select Specific Databases and from the list displayed tick the checkbox or checkboxes next to those databases you want to search within. Remove ticks from any databases you no longer wish to search in. Click on Continue to Search.

HELP

Click on the Help & Support button near the top right of screen.

EXITING FROM DATABASE

Click on Logout to the top left of the screen.

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